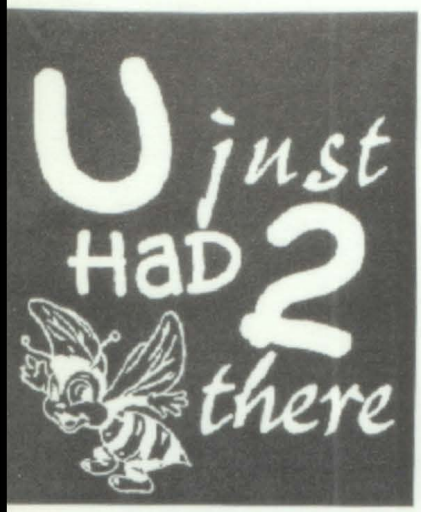

You just
had to
be there...

University High School





Home of the Phoenix

55 Clinton Place
Newark, New Jersey 07108



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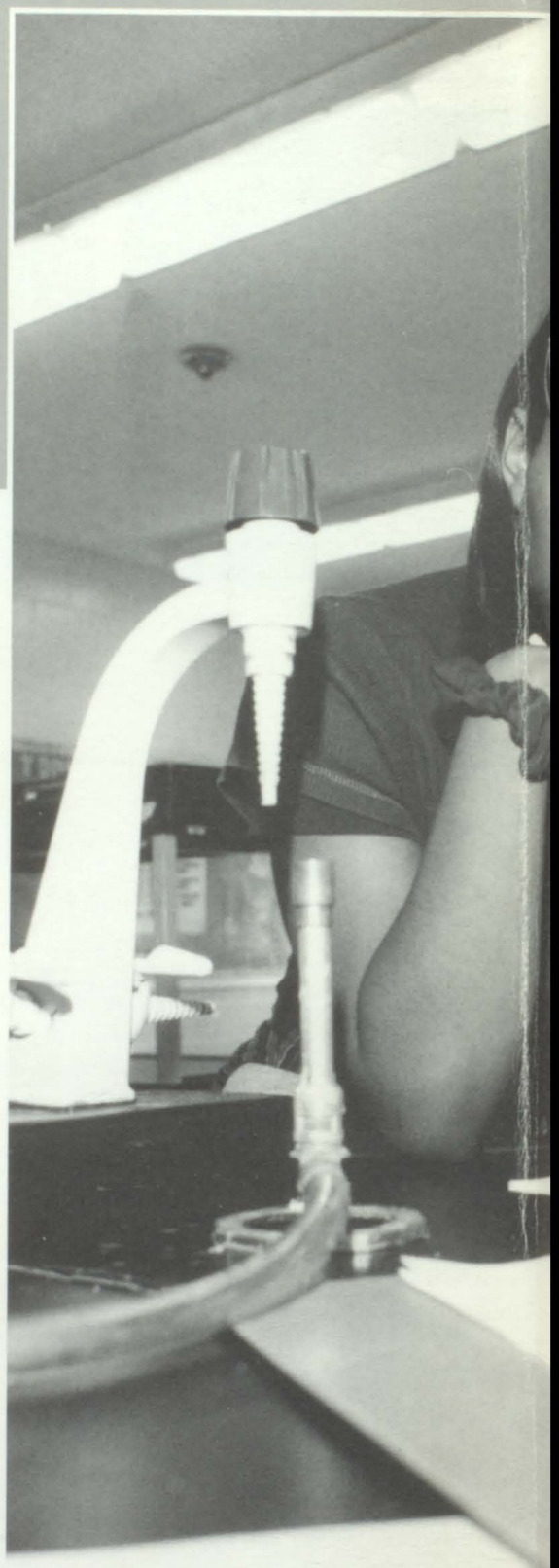
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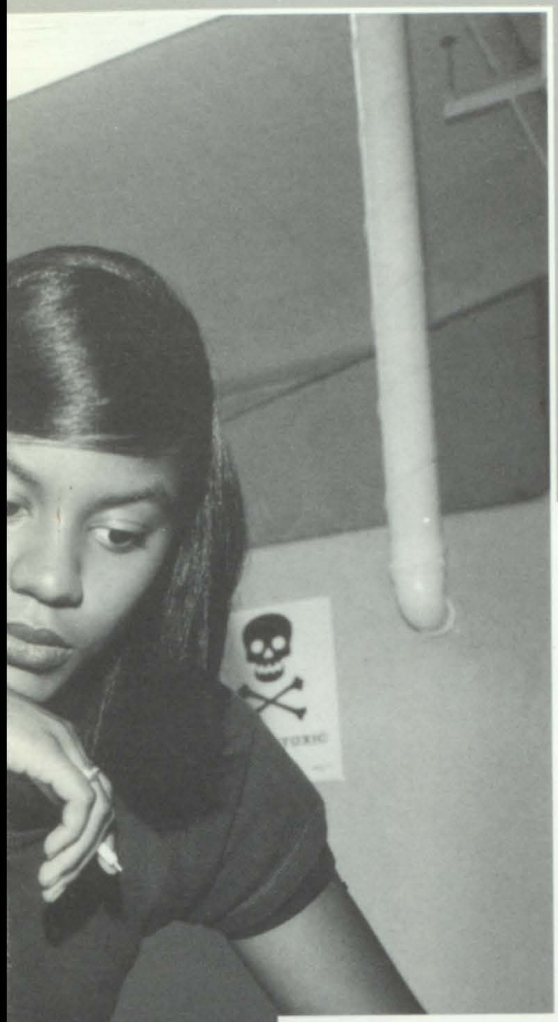
You Just Had...



Ever since 1993, the year the famous and infamous class of 1997 entered University High School, we have been known to try anything once. For instance, while we were eighth graders, we were the first to be enrolled in a Latin II held at University High. Then, upon entering the ninth grade, the first year of the beginnings of our lives here, we boldly tried and succeeded to write, produce and perform the first ever Murder Mystery. Those involved directly and indirectly in carrying out this genuine task certainly contain the pride of the Phoenix, as well as a reflection or reflections of the Black and Silver. We were the first classes to select and receive AP courses such as History and biology which challenged our intelligence and academic stamina on a daily basis. We also endured the trauma of a state takeover. We still living with the uncertainly and consequences of that act. We have watched our teachers react to many changes, and we were shocked when we learned that several of our long-standing teachers have been transferred. And we were the class to welcome a new principal, Dr. Lewis, on the brink of graduation.

We have endured the trauma of state take over

There have been negative vibes from others outside of this loving commonwealth, the positive aspects have always out-



To Be There

weighed the negative. All through the years we have taken criticism for the way we conducted ourselves, our activities and our sense of direction for the future. We have also been complimented for our courage and diversity which make our colors the Black and Silver the most appropriate colors for the class of 1997.
Black and Silver, the colors of the graduating Senior Class of 1997 are colors that exemplify such qualities as fellowship, audacity, strength, passion, intelligence, respect, determination, leadership and the ability to be



Class work was demanding and time consuming. Good grades were hard to come by, but we are glad to have been there.

You Just Had Be There. . . for the fun, the friends and all the good times.



We are the class willing to try anything once!

unique and artistic in every aspect.

This spirit has been a driving force for the senior class. It has driven individuals to participate in such activities as the Masquerade Ball, the "Walk Out" and a host of fashion shows. Although the Class of 1997 has been known to experiment, we are also noted for reviving traditions and activities to accommodate ourselves and others of our family with a sense of comfort and excitement.

We have been known to experiment

Among the aspects that have been resuscitated are the Talent Show, in which a new segment has been added, the After Party. The many successful Bake Sales, Basketball game concessions and the eternal Literary Magazine and Phoenix Flame, our sources of freedom and expression. It is understood that without the love, support and influence of our teachers, families and others we would not be the socially, politically, and educationally aware and conscious individuals which constitute this loving educational institution that nurtures and prepares us for everyday life and future endeavors that await us outside this nest.

Our expectations are unnumbered and our successes are boundless. We, the graduating Class of 1997 have and will continue to prove that with guidance and a little support, anything is possible, and achievable, not only once. We reflect the past's mistakes and represent a future that is so bright and full of fortune that you would have just had to have been there to understand this Era of Black and Silver. So, it is with much thanks that we leave you, eagerly, with hope, pride, courage and the passion to want and take action toward change. We can go on and regale you, but in truth,

you just had to be there!



Luis R. gets some TLC from UHS own Florence Nightingale, Ms. Beaumont.

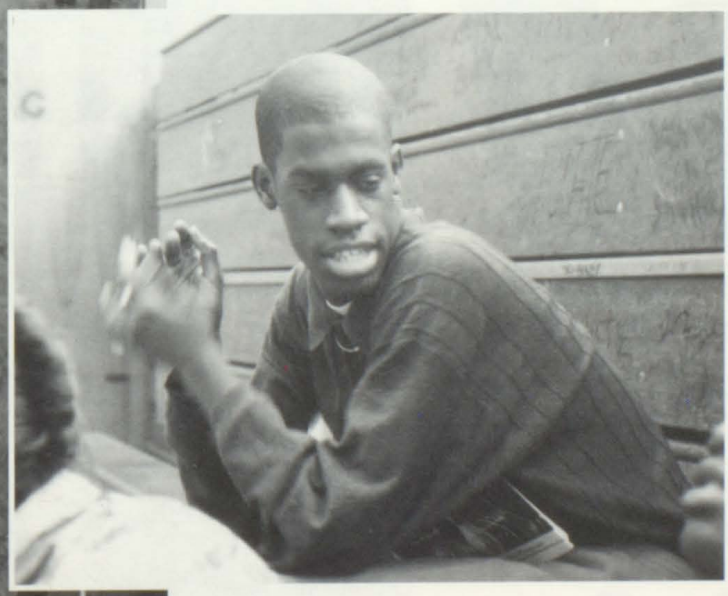




Math Olympics Calculus Team with Mr. Fahmy



Being there with the girlz and all that jazz. . .



Give Baron Wright credit for many of the photos



School Life

To create a well-rounded student, a variety of extra-curricular activities must be provided. The activities should appeal to the intellectual, as well as to the light-hearted, to the practical as well as to the whimsical, to the thinker as well as the doer. Here at UHS, we have indulged in a plethora of activities that have been just as important in our lives as our academics. We believe that through activities outside of class, we have been encouraged to expand our horizons and explore all possible options. It is through participation in extra-curricular activities that we learn to take responsibility for a project or a segment of a project. We learn to work as a team. We learn to take a task and see it through to completion, and in so doing experience the immense satisfaction of a job well done. It is also through the extra-curricular activities that we find our friends.

We learned to work and play as a team

So in essence, it is not just the "book knowledge" we value, but also the experiences and friendships that we have gained through extra-curricular activities that we will treasure for the rest of our lives.



DR. EVELYN LEWIS

Your Actions Can Only Reproduce Themselves

I know that you have learned a great deal academically, and participated in many programs and activities to enhance and expand your horizons and add to your enjoyment and socialization during your years at University High. These have been special years that you will remember fondly as you move on to the next phase in your future. As you arrive at this very important crossroads, I hope that each of you will pause and reflect upon a few immutable life principles - you must plant peace if you do not want discord; plant honesty and loyalty if you want to avoid betrayal and lies; formulate your dreams for the future into your own personal vision if you want your dreams to come true; and believe in your self, knowing that only you can determine that there are no limits to what you can achieve in life unless you allow yourself to believe so.

Best wishes for a bright and happy future as you carve out your places in the world.

Congratulations!

You are about to embark on one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences in your life. Some of you will go on to college and others may enter the work force, which ever path you choose the take, the following is a recipe to obtaining your dreams:

Daniel's "Successful" Cake
1 cup knowledge
1 cup wisdom
1 cup understanding
1 cup responsibility
1/2 motivation
1/2 perseverance
1 tablespoon common sense
1 teaspoon dreams
1 teaspoon patience
1 pinch of love

Sift the first 3 ingredients and set aside.

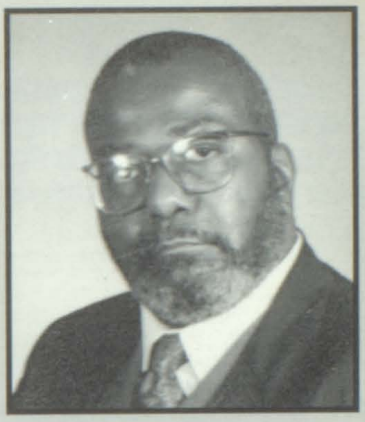
2. Mix in a large bowl motivation, perseverance and responsibility. Add knowledge, wisdom and understanding.

3. Gradually add common sense, dreams and patience. Mix well.

4. Pour batter into a well greased pan - add a pinch of love.

5. Bake at 350 degrees Fahrenheit for as long as necessary.

* If you are not satisfied with the result, check your ingredients. You may have missed one.



MR. MICHAEL DANIELS



ELIZABETH BLACKMON
GEORGE BROWNLEE
WALTER KACZKA
MARTHA SMALL

MARY WIGGINS
MARY ALTERIE
GRACE BEAUMONT
JAMES BROWN

WILHEMENA BROWN
GLORIA BUCK
DELORES BURFORD
QUEENIE CALDWELL

RAUL CEDENO
ANDREW DAMATO
DARNELL DAVIS
PAULA ECKSTEIN

TERESA EDMONSON
FOAD FAHMY
HAROLD FRIEDMAN
SAMIR GANDHI

MARIE GIRONDA
MARY GRANTHAM
ROBERT HANKERSON
CLIFF HARRIS

GARY HAYES
SANDRA HEWETT
ROSEANN HEYL
MARILYN HOWARD

GBARRINGTON
JACKSON
SUSAN JACKSON
JAQUELINE JAMES
GLORIA JOHNSON

TAMMARRA JONES
DAISY MADISON
ALICIA MAHON
LINDA MELVIN



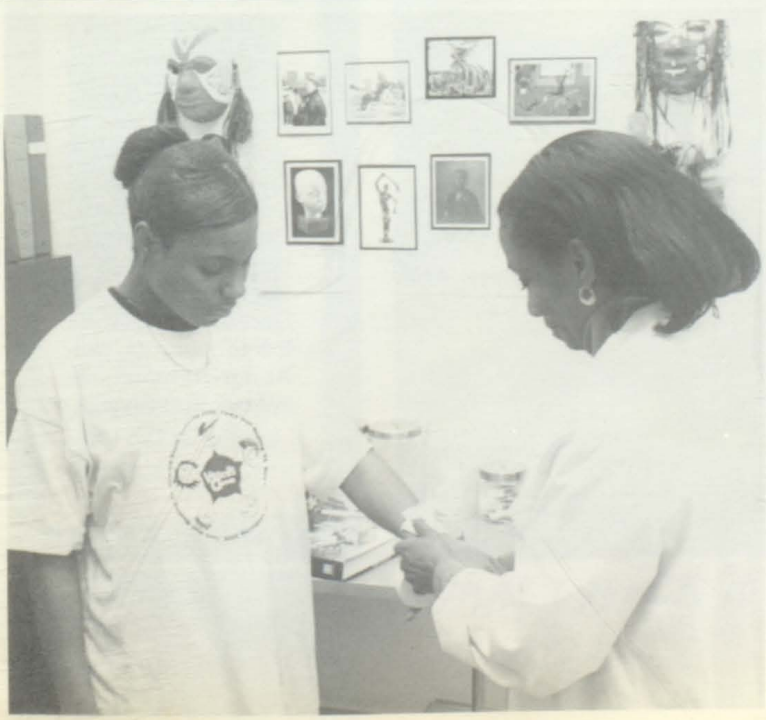


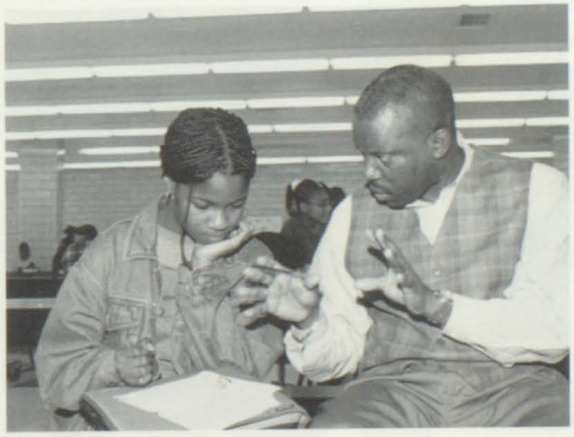
JOYLETTE MILLS-RANSOME
ZAKIYYAH MUHAMMAD
VALERIE NOBLE
JOHN RANSOME

QUETZY RIVERA-CRUZ
DEBRA ROJY
SANDRA RYDER
GWENDELYN SANFORD

JEANMARIE SANTUCCI
BASIM SHARIAH
JOYCE STEPHENSON
WILLIAM THOMAS

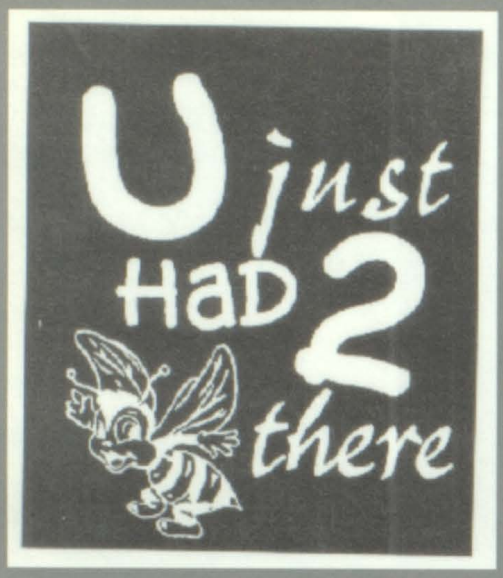
JOAN WHITE
PATRICIA WING





Monsieur Jean Charles still teaching even in the cafeteria.

Mrs. Beaumont provides tender loving care with a smile.



Underclass Homerooms



School will have to start later, or somebody will need to give me a personal wake-up call.

Roy Johnson



JUNIOR HOMEROOM

R Kirkland, L. Snowden, H. Muhammed T. Reed, A. Gordon, M. Caldwell, K. Williams, N. Hannibal, J. Poole, J. Culp, L. Parker, S. Gold, N. Feliciano, K. Rollins, J. Barnes



Have homeroom in my home.

Jlaja Podier



JUNIOR HOMEROOM

K. Dolopie, A. Blaine, V. Grimes, E. Adams, T. Peters, D. Hill, S. Crawford, T. Curtis, L. Legere, S. Prentice, C. Miller, R. Johnson, L. Lawson, D. Melton, A. Delos-Santos, C. Edmonson, M. Ali-Abdur-Rahman, A. Wilson, K. Billings.



A later start for homeroom, or a ride to school, or breakfast served in homeroom.

Stephanie Foard



JUNIOR HOMEROOM

A. Woods, A. Quinonas, A. White, D. Phillips, C. Watson, L. Armour, K. McCloud, D. Flourney, D. Greenlee, T. Bullock, K. Lester, S. Torrance, M. Durant, N. Branch, A. Alexander, N. Green



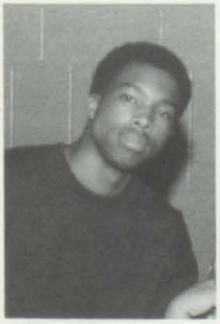
Something fun to look forward to.

Nikkia Mathis



SOPHOMORE HOMEROOM

K. Peterson, K. Hurt, T. Nelson, J. Denard, S. Foard, O. Anderson, S. Justice, T. Taliafero, K. Crawley, T. Patterson, N. Campbell, F. Sowell, J. Spencer, S. Johnson, N. Neal, S. Edwards, K. Lee, K. Simons, C. Way, J. Singleton, Y. Weems, M. Dextra.



Not a problem, if you get to school on time.

Michael Ivery



SOPHOMORE HOMEROOM

A. Van Dyke, A. McLeod, D. Jackson, A. Earls-Church, W. Branch, R. Foluke, E. Griffin, K. Henderson, I. Irving, O. Fawole, C. Fields, D. Terrell, T. Perry, N. Mathis, J. Phillips, L. Stephens, N. Hill.

What would it take . . .

to get you to homeroom on time?

Life in the Homeroom

FRESHMEN HOMEROOM

T. Freeman, J. White, Q. Christmas, R. Booker, M. Harris, E. Moore, L. Mathis, A. Williams, T. Howard, H. Perez, F. Radford, S. Sarwat, S. Bell, L. Robinson, C. Rivers, J. Lowery. Mr. S. Gandhi.





Get someone to secretly set your clock an hour earlier than the usual wake-up time. If all else fails, sneak past the late desk.

Aquella Bell

FRESHMEN HOMEROOM

S. Moore, K. Seals, S. Talbert, L. Hall, T. Mullins, A. Lopez, R. Begone, K. O'Neal, Q. Bragg, A. Fearon, Q. Neal, L. Velez, S. Sayree, P. Booker, M. Peters, D. Holt C. Kolden, A. Nwachukwu, C. Vega, A. Hicks, C. Davis, S. Wilder, E. Williams, G. Anthony, S. Scott, S. Thomas, S. Jones, R. Clark.





It would take a miracle, or a good school breakfast, or school would start at 9:00 am.

Tiqua S. Knight

FRESHMEN HOMEROOM

G. Lopez,
R. Cotton,
R. Conover,
N. Choudhoury,
N. Carson,
V. Green,
T. Paylor,
D. Agosto,
N. Kuame,
S. Rodriguez,
F. Vaughn,
B. Benard,
M. Hightower.





It would take a substitute that I know I can run over.

N. Kalimah

. . . and down the hall.

FRESHMEN HOMEROOM

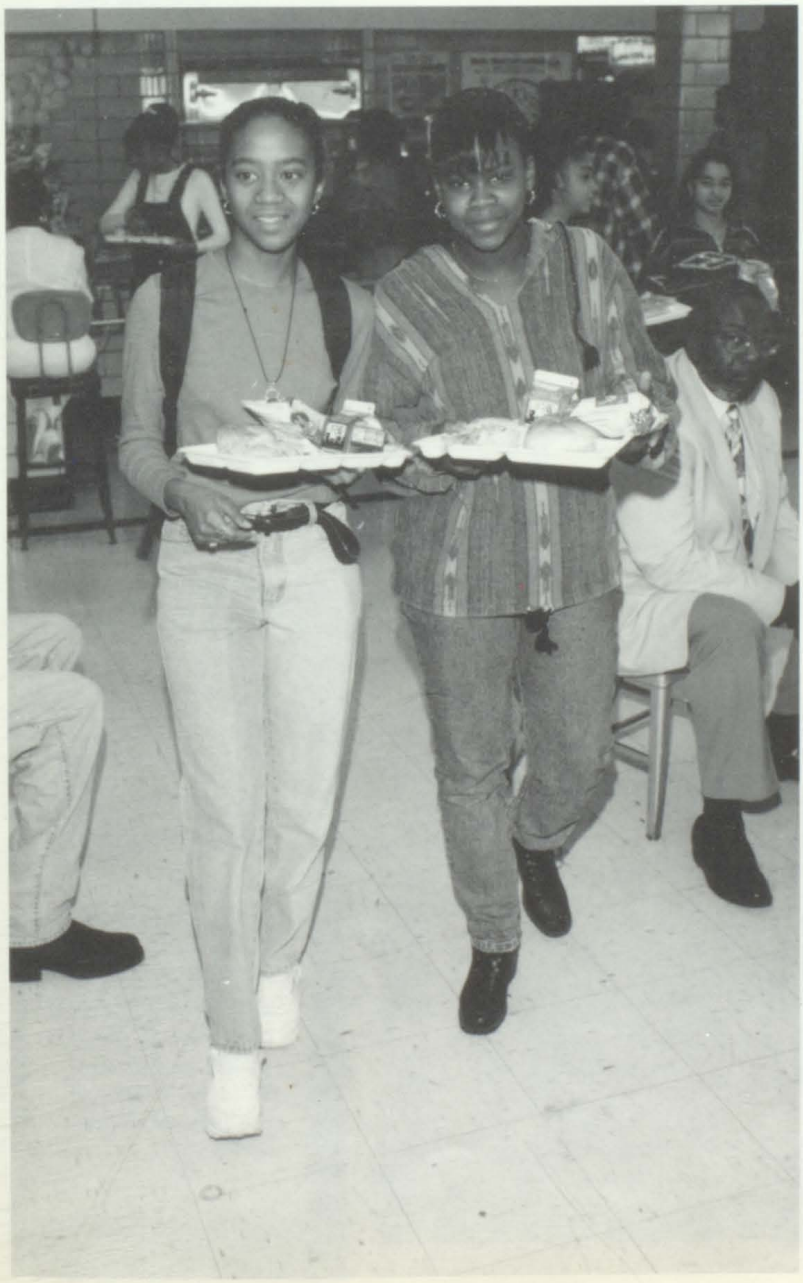
J. Neals, J. Hemingway, A. Patterson, S Lockhart, T. Williams, D. Scarboruough, W. Brooks, F. Harris, A. Davis, Z.Sowell, M. Roman, N. Deloatch, E. Velez, M. Abuus-Sabur, P. Wilson, M. Thomas, A. McCullers, K. Feaster, B. Taborn, K. Vereen, J. Adams.

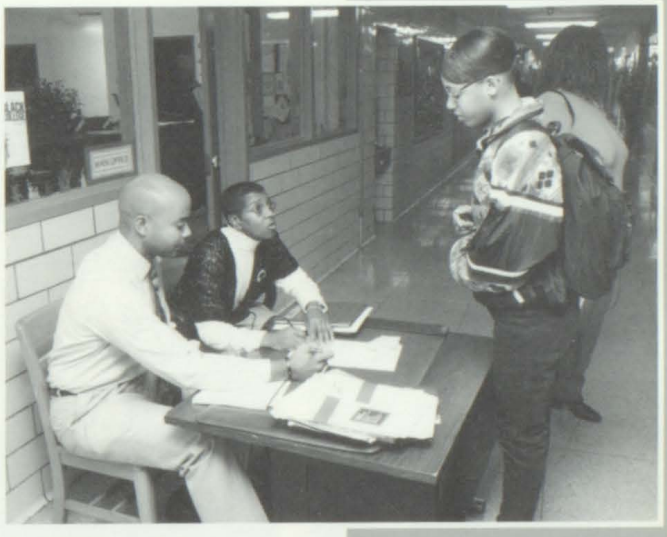




Knowing that first period is nap time and i will get an automatic 'A'

Keisha Lester





Like many of us who eat school lunch, by the grace of the lunch lad, got through without her counting our items.Then we swiftly, but happily rush to our seats. The next event on our agenda is to critique the lunch, or whatever else catches our attention.

There is never a day that goes by when we all are not rushing to make the 8:30 bell to homeroom. As we give our name and homeroom we become impatient as we scurry to get to our lockers, then our homeroom, and hope that we don't get caught in a conversation; or forget our locker combination or key.



It will take someone to pick me up from home and have breakfast waiting for me in homeroom.

Le'Tesha Curry



If someone paid me a lot of money, I'd get to homeroom on time.

Jamie Lester

U just had 2 there



I would need the incentive of Tyson Bechford, Omar Epss, Brad Pitt or Leonardo DiCapri waiting for me in homeroom and I'll come running.

Dana P. Bazile

What would a morning be without the soothing voice of **Johanna Gonzalez** reading the daily announcements?



Senior **Michael Ivery** gets a little aesthetic enticement from underclassmen **Marie Dextra, Kary Patterson** and **Jennifer Spencer**

Is this not the feeling that is stuck on our face when we have just lost our thought or even the answer to a math or English question that took us forever to figure out.







SEVENTH GRADE HOMEROOM

Q. Brigs, R. Wilkins, A. Powell, R. Thompson, A. Thom, M. Munford, A. Ingraham, C. Scott, T. Joe, J. Jefferson, M. Terry, T. Kelly, D. Harrison, M. Green. S Hardges.

Creative solutions . . .
getting to homeroom on time.



There would have to be a full course breakfast meal in homeroom for me to get there on time.

Corinne Rivers



They would have to stop the bells.

Yasmeen Weems



I would need to get a lot more sleep

Luis Velez



SEVENTH GRADE HOMEROOM

M. Owens, L. Pinckney, K. Piper, C. Negron, Y. Mullins, A. Michel, O. Ramos, T. Powell, P. McKinney, T. Phillips.



SEVENTH GRADE HOMEROOM

T. Harris, J. Loyal, N. Hicks, P. Reyes, M. Gray, E. Crawford, J. Baker, K. Johnson, T. Leary, J. Jordan, A. Attiyeh, D. McKoy, S. Baker, T. Gainer, N. Glanton, A. Harper, M. Martinez, Q. Knight.



SEVENTH GRADE HOMEROOM

J. Baker, A. Fearon, T. Leary, V. Johnson, A. Attiyeh, D. McKoy, V. Johnson, S. Cuerton, M. Martinez and Mrs. James.

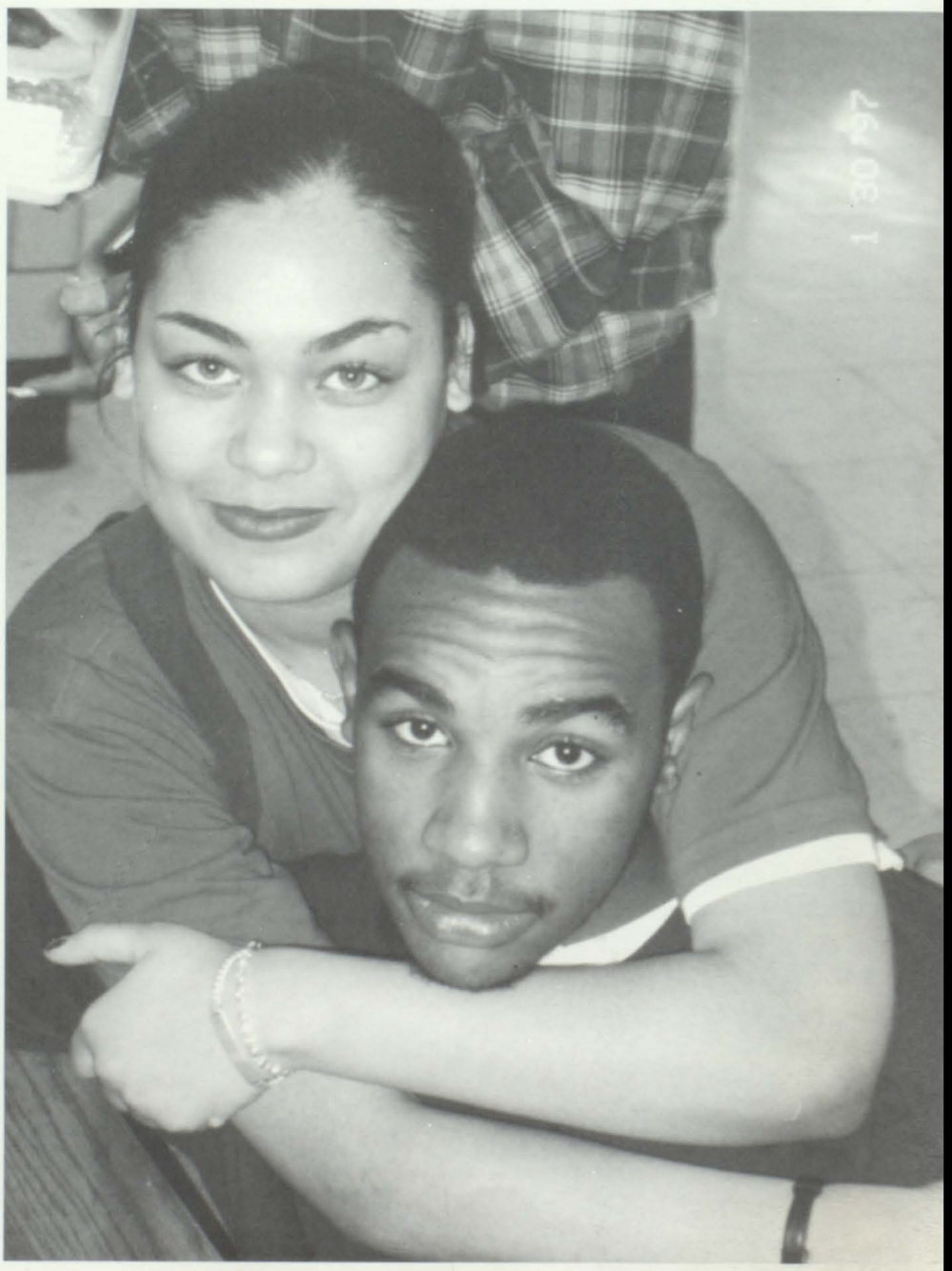
Being there....



. . .late for home room.

. . . for homeroom.



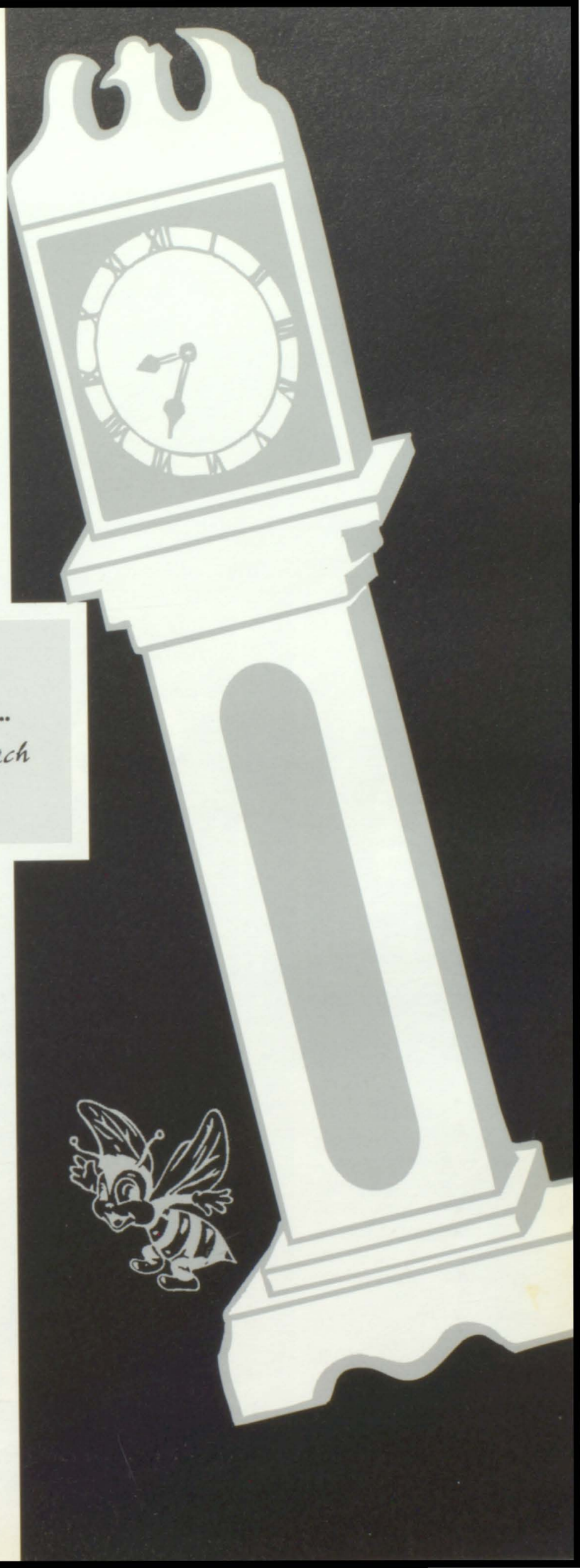


. . . instead of homeroom

Student Life

"Stressing, Stressing, Stressing." These three words described the state of mind that many students are attempting to conquer on a daily basis. We are stressed about the dangers of excessive tardiness and or absences, not making the honor roll and to add to the pressure, home problems. Despite these maledictions prevalent among the students of University, we do enjoy one another's presence. For instance, we, the upper classmen, enjoy the innocence of new members of University's society and their way of adapting or not adapting to one another as well as to other students. Although it is rumored that we lack school spirit, our spirits soar when we have class rivalries or "beefs" to prove which is the better class. Student Life at UHS is one that contains stress, but along with stress comes relief, mingled with school spirit and mountains of laughter which we all share.

We are stressed... but we do enjoy each others company



Leading Us to Victory

Being there for the extra curricular activities. Classes are good, but memories are made during the after school hours.

Everyone has told us to join a club, or an activity. Those of us who listened and joined have gained immensely. We learned how to give of our free time to a greater good. Honor Society Members must perform public service activities; Debate and Speech competitions bring honor and glory to our school; Leadership clubs allow us to gain experience and practice for our future.

National Honor Society

Margaret Stevens, Taeyma Sapp, Karla Furr, Shakira Scarborough. Elizabeth Cruz, Kiera Billings,Sergio Godinho, Katrina Buchanan, Melody Caldwell

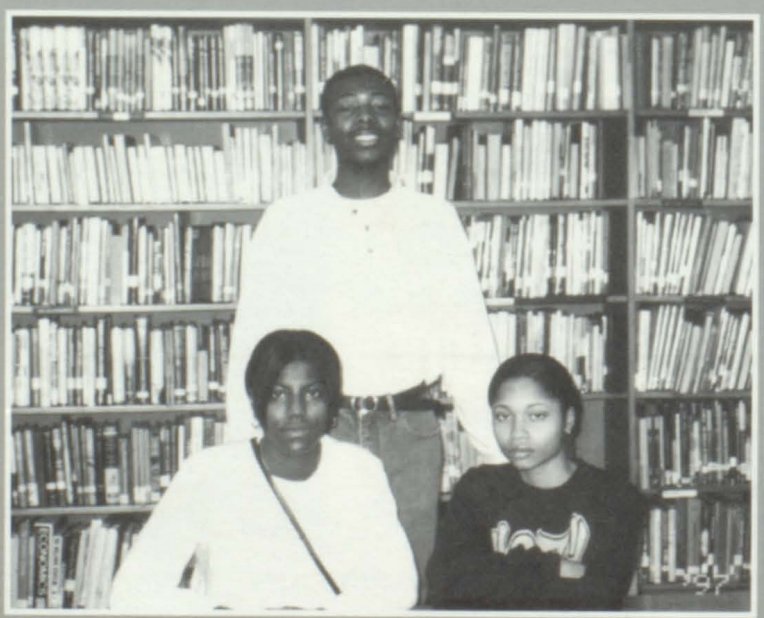
Advisor:
Mrs. G. B. Jackson



Student Leadership

Leetwaun Snowden, Rabiah Torain and Shakeerah Benthall

Advisor:
Mrs. M. Howard





Being in the National Honor Society has changed my life and my view of myself. I was very pleased to be inducted into the Society. As a member of the National Honor Society, I was following in the path of my sister, whom I look up to and respect. Also, I have more confidence in myself. I know I can do many things, including keeping up my grades.

Kiera Billings

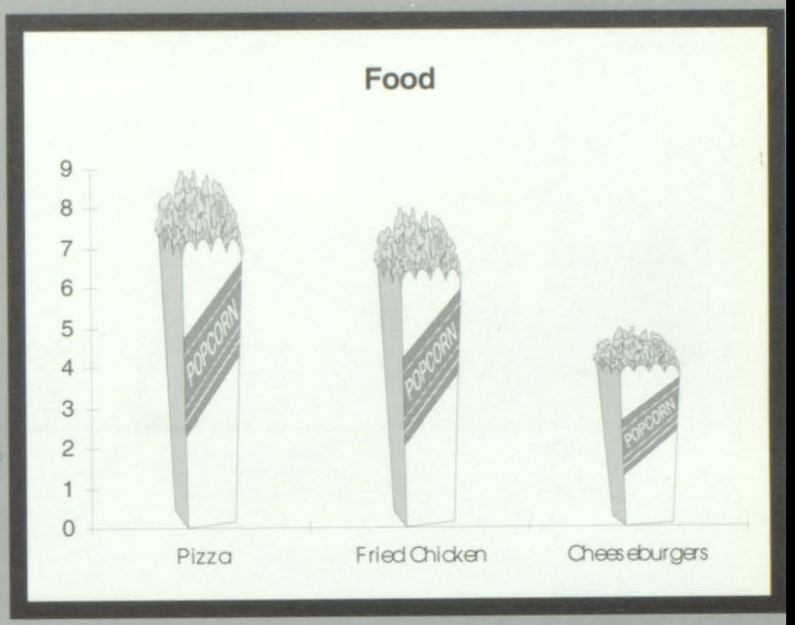


With the success of the Newark Public School's first Town Hall Meeting, student Leadership looks toward even bigger and better things for Newark School students. We are determined to make the District offices work for the betterment of the student.

Leetwaun Snowden



Class Introvert- Dorethea Armstead

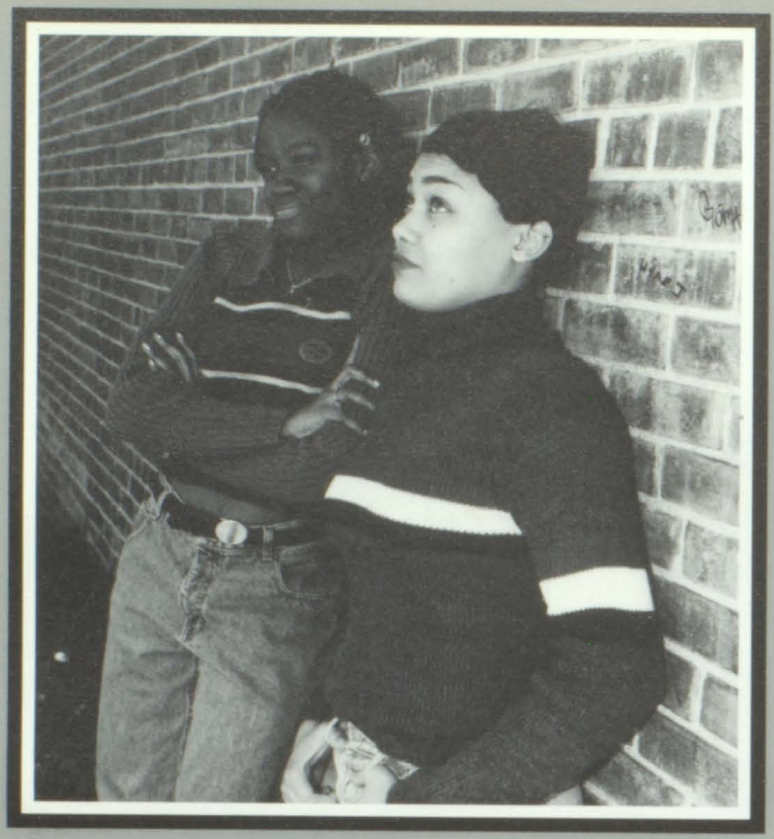




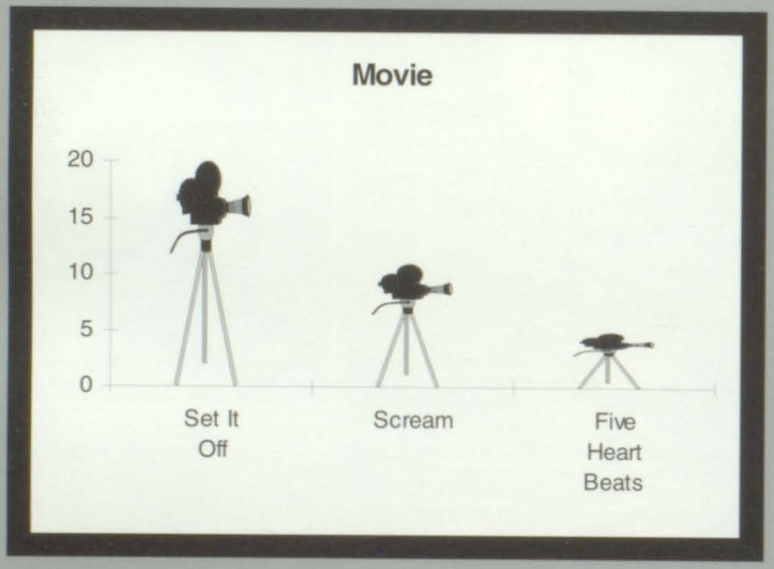


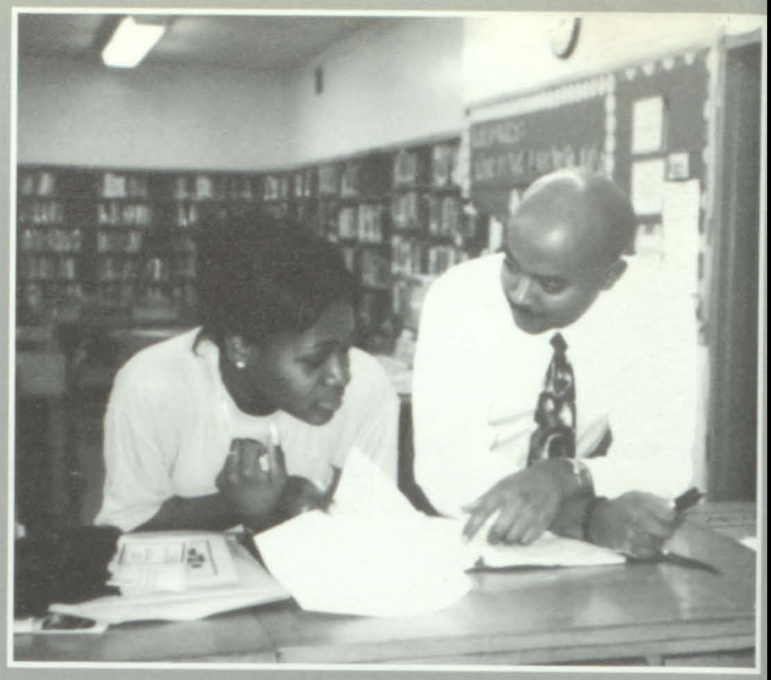
Jennifer Rooks, triumphant after locating her gym gear in that overcrowded locker.

All together, but each doing her own thing. Genique Flournoy, Alisha Lee, Asia McMillan, Tauheedah Robinson, Shennell Hardy, La'Tesha Curry and junior Tamika Peters.

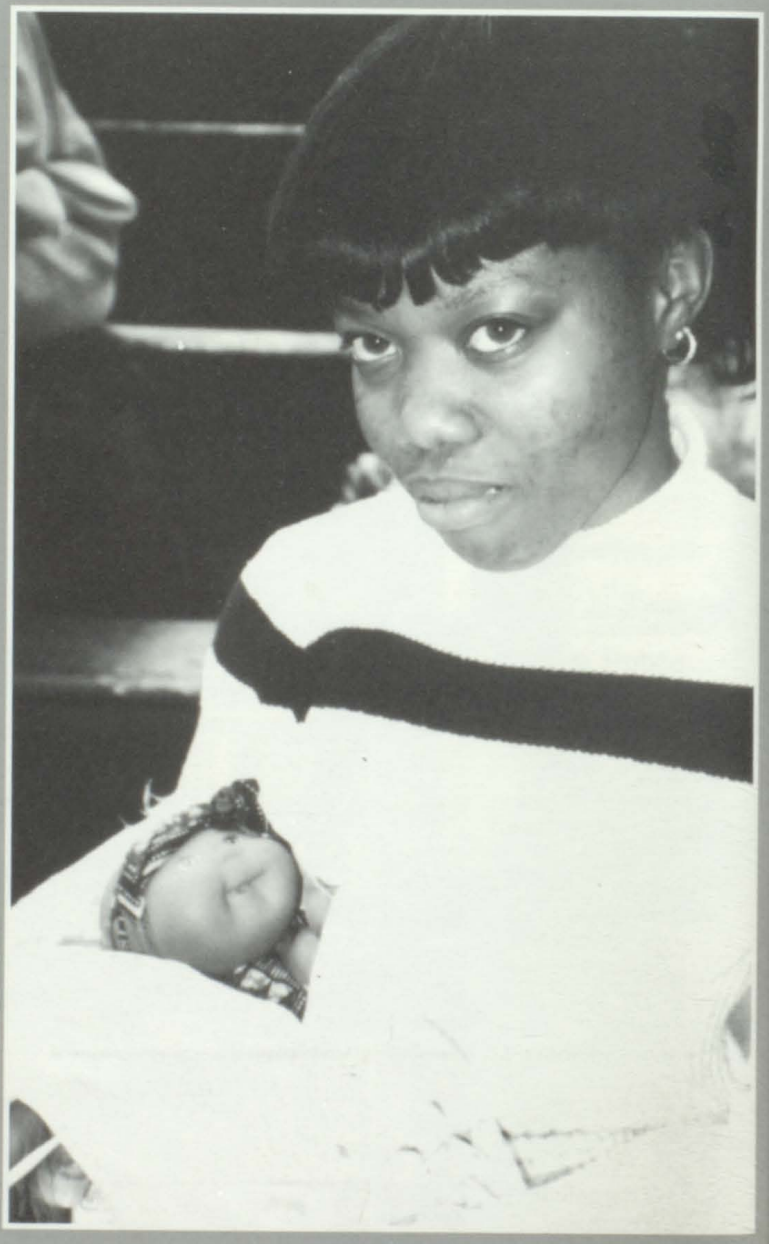


Most Bizarre- Sharrell Parker and Jilyan Conyers





A born mentor's job is never done, and can be done anywhere and everywhere. Mr. Davis and Latysha Brown at the circulation counter in the library.



Melinda Murphy caring for her "baby" as required for Ms. Hewett's Family Living Program for health class.

Seen It, Heard It, Recorded It



I am surprised at the way I have developed on the *Phoenix Flame*. My progression as a writer has been aided by several controversial issues, like the State takeover, animal rights and ebonics.

Taeyma Sapp



Working and distributing the *Kaleidoscope* is like waiting for the rainbow after the storm. You can say that I grew up with the *Kaleidoscope* because I have contributed so much of my life to it. The work is hard but very rewarding, especially since it has almost been cancelled three times due to various changes in administration. Through it all, the *Kaleidoscope* has and will continue to be our great vent of perpetual immortality.

Aquella Bell



Phoenix Flame

A. Bell, K. Williams, V. Johnson, T. Peters, V. Johnson, S. Benthall, S. Wallace, T. Sapp.

Advisor:
Mrs. M. Howard



Kaleidoscope

Aneesha Crenshaw, Aquella Bell, Shakeerah Benthall, Danielle Vernon, Hajar Sabur. Alisha Lee, Tauheedah Robinson, Baron Wright, Nashid Kalimah, Chanel Wilson, Genique Flournoy. Stacy Brown. Anise Robinson, Brendalyn Henry

Advisor:
Mrs. M. Howard



Krystal Kolden and Nazia Choudhury admiring the "Wrapped in Pride" - Kente Project Display prepared by Mrs. G. B. Jackson and her seventh period class.

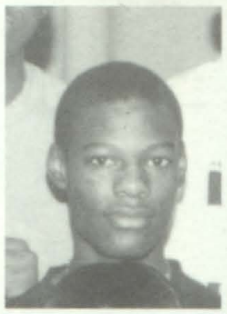
Can't Get a Word in, Edgewise

Lincoln Douglas

S. Samreen, L. Robinson, A. Bell, N. Kalimah.

Advisors:
Mrs. M. Gironda
Mr. J. Ransome





The Lincoln Douglas debate broadened my concept of thinking in many new ways. For example, now whenever I write something, I support it with numerous pieces of evidence, which I rarely did in the past. I have given my time and I have won trophies for my school and myself. An equal trade if I may say so.

Nashid Kalimah

Speech

N. Mathis and J. McMillan.

Advisor:
Mrs. J. White





The speech competitions have been an inspiration to me and young people from all walks of life, and from every corner of the US. Students come together to learn from, and compete against each other. The different types of people that I have met have opened my eyes to the realization that we are really all the same in our love & kindness toward one another, despite our differences.

Nikiya Mathis



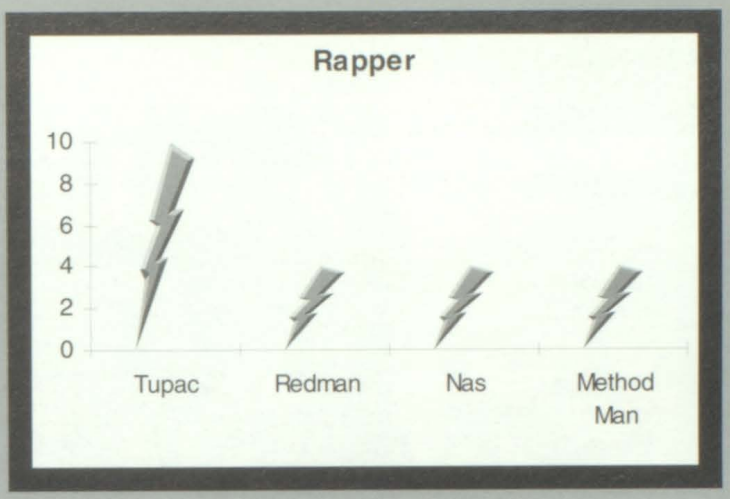
Eat a little, talk a little, and having a lot of fun. S. Hardy, K. Baptiste and E. Cruz.



Yes the bell rang, but Sharee Fields is too absorbed in her book to notice.

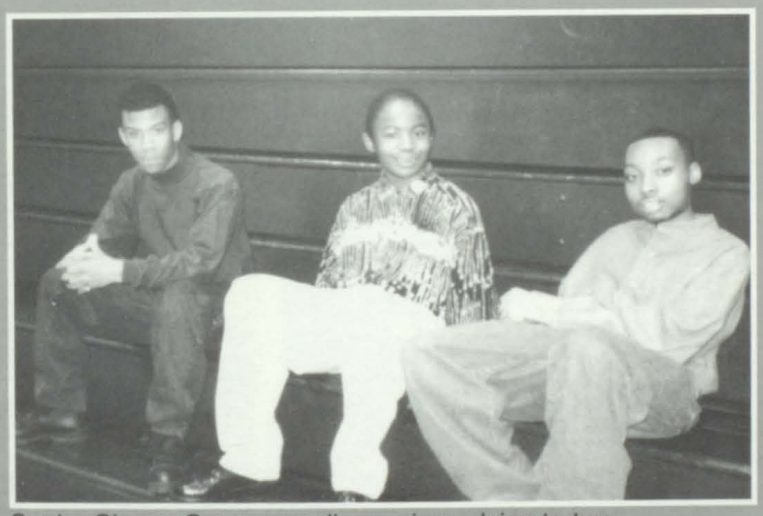


Most Dramatic- Anise Robinson and Sadira Jones





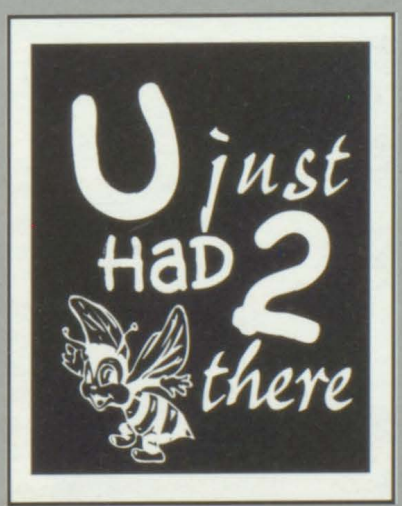
Heck no, they won't let him go. News of Mr. Daniel's promotion and imminent departure does not sit well with many students.



Senior Shawn Spearman dispensing advice to two undergrads: Shalik Comer and Michael Gilbert.



All talked out, Michael Harris takes a power nap after 8 periods of talking.



The Power is in the Hands of the Little People

Student Council

R. Torain,
A. DelosSantos,
K. Williams,
T. Bennett,
L. Rivera,
T.Peters,
M. Caldwell,
S. Benthall,
H. Henry.

Advisor:
Mr. W. Thomas





As President of the student body, I've learned a great deal about leadership and the commitment to the needs and wants of my fellow school mates. This learning experience will definitely aid me in college and my future career.

Shakeerah Benthall

Stage Crew

Kiera Billings, Luis Rivera, Todd Harris.

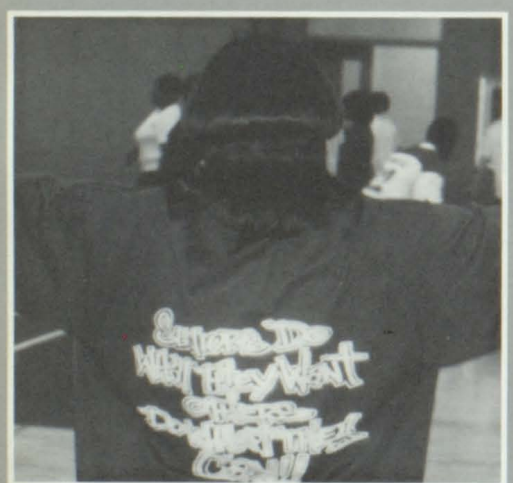
Advisor:
Mr. J. Ransome



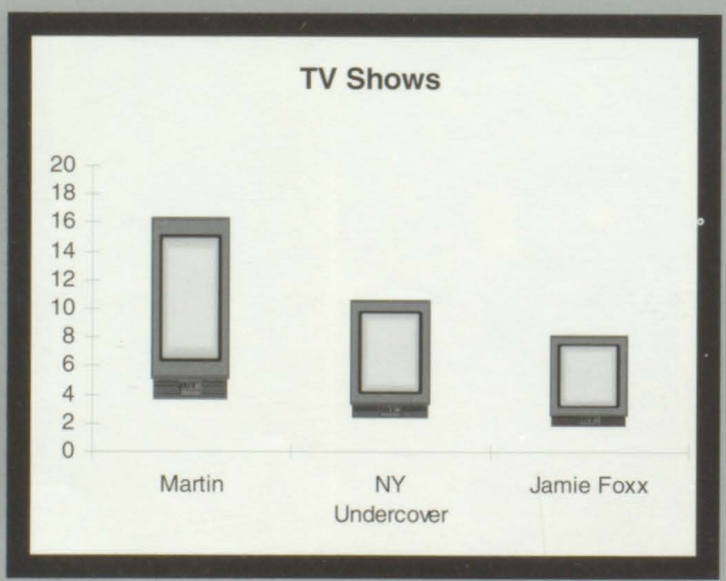


The good thing about stage crew is we don't have to pay to see the show. Plus it is fun messing with the spot light.

Luis Rivera



Senior shirt says it all: Seniors do what they want, others do what they can!



We've been friends since forever: S. Bobbit, F. Jones, B. Wright and N. Jackson.



Camika Lewis explains wall hanging of African-American History. The project was created under the direction of Ms. Sanford and Mrs. Johnson.





Quietest Qiana Hart



Most Talkative Sahkeenah Wallace and Adries Lockhart



ACT-SO allows students of different backgrounds to interact with each other and learn about aspects of life that help define our society.

Todd Alexander Harris

Yearbook

S. Scarsborough, G. Flournoy, J. Gonzalez, A. Lee, T. Anderson, A. Bell, M. Ivery, S. Elam, M. Stevens, S. Jones, N. Jackson, B. Wright.

Advisors:
Mrs. G. B. Jackson
Mrs. P. Eckstein

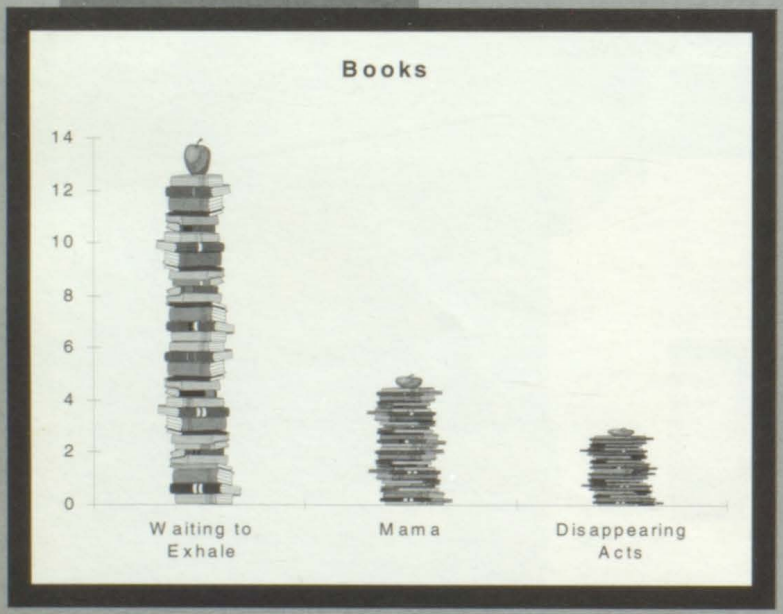


Eighth Grade Yearbook

Unique Crowley, Jamie Lester, Taryn Paylor, Nichole Curtis

Advisors:
Mrs. G. B. Jackson
Mrs. P. Eckstein







Bocas Mas Grande
Danille Vernon and Sharef Talbert

The Class of 1997 in the year 1994



I feel that being a part of the yearbook committee is a trying job. There are deadlines to meet and classmates to satisfy, although all cannot be satisfied. In my opinion, the yearbook staff should be commended for all their efforts.

Alisha-Janelle Lee



Being on the yearbook committee was adventurous, although, it was a great responsibility. I enjoyed helping to design our yearbook.

Jamie Lester





Recognize anyone? The gang during Seventies Day.



Young and smiling, Jerry Irving.

It only seems like forever

Old pictures tell the story. Looking back through the years, the pictures remind us of our four year odyssey through Big Uni. We were younger, less sophisticated, less polished, but brash and very eager.

Who can believe we were ever so young, so innocent and full of hope.



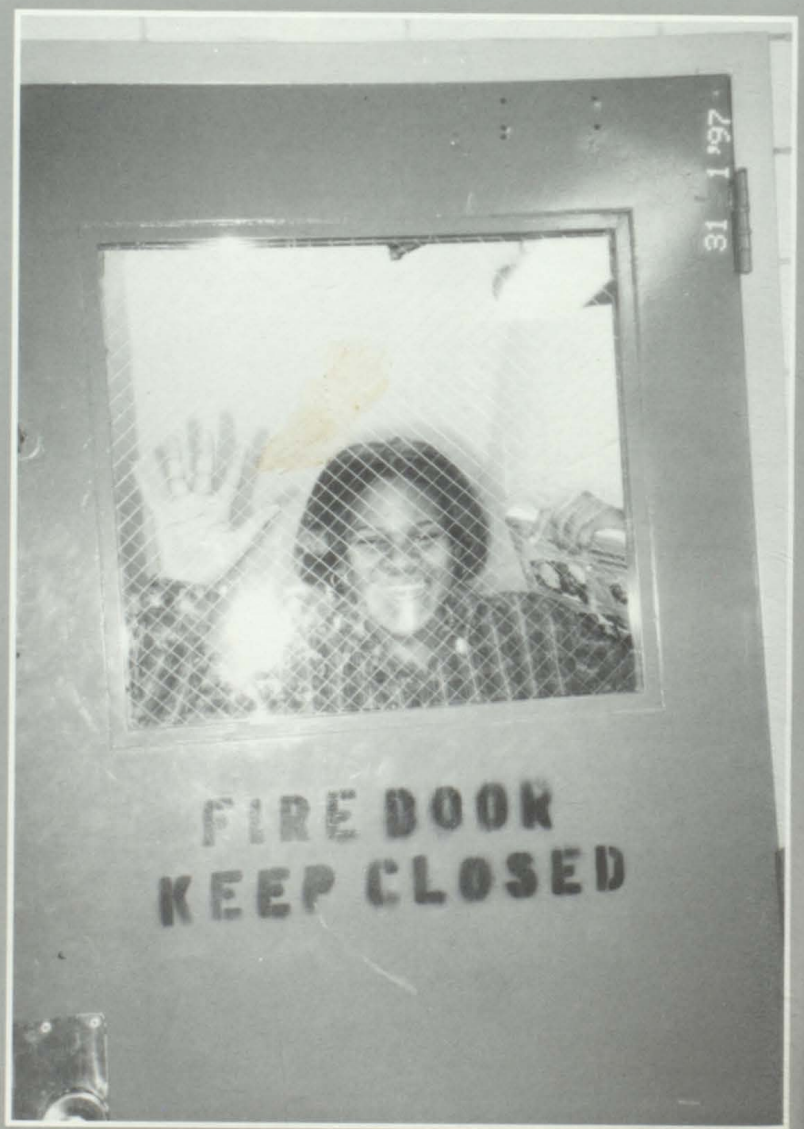
Best Laugh
Todd Harris Tyisha Bennett



Most Creative
Gamaliel Rodriquez



Jasmeen W. and Rabiah T. putting last minute touches on their biology project.



Some want in and some want out of Big Uni. Which on does Atiya Hicks want?

Movers and Shakers...



Ethnic awareness is a club that allows its members to be proud of their culture and heritage. It is a celebration of who we are where we come from and where we plan to be.

Sha'kira Bobbitt



The coolest thing we did was a visit to UMDN. We saw an autopsy. We got a chance to see what goes on in a hospital, in the morgue, behind the scenes places in a hospital.

Michael Ivery



Ethnic Awareness

S. Jones, S. Bobbit, A. Robinson, H. Abdus-Sabuur, A. Bell, N. Kalimah, T. Peters, S. Benthall, B. Henry, E. Cruz, C. Miller, A. DelosSantos, A. Wilson, S. Sarwat.

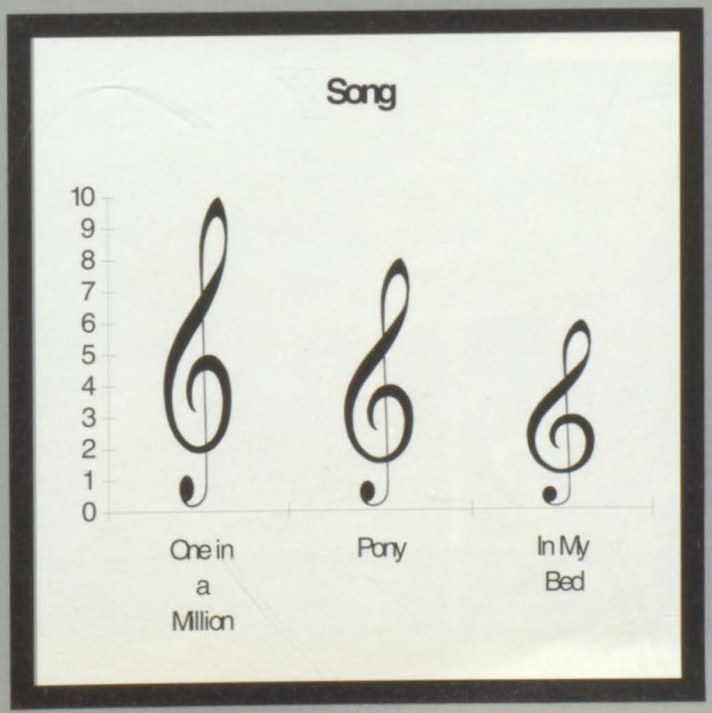
Advisor:
Ms. G. Sanford



Future Physicians

S. Fields, D. Vernon, K. Howard, S. Duncan, T. Jackson, Q. Robinson, L. Smallwood, A. Wood, H. Henry, M. Ivery, B. Henry and E. Adams.

Advisor:
Ms. D. Rojy





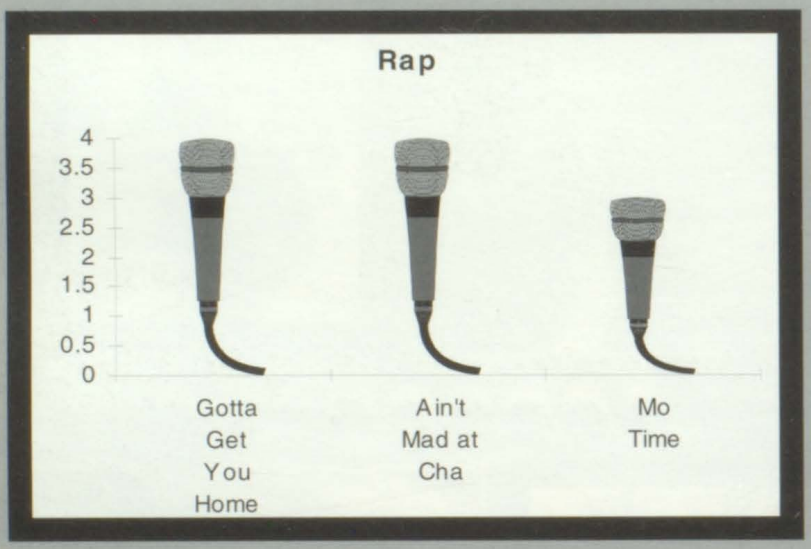
Qiana Robinson having a good hair day.



Nellie Kwaume: A favorite candidate for future best hairdo survey.



Phatest Hairdo
Jerome Payne and Qiana Robinson





Shoeless Nikkia Neal practices getting the step just right for the Ethnic Awareness Assembly.



Just Performing



During the time I've spent in UHS chorus I have been introduced to many different types of music and I am glad that I was a part of this experience.

Sharmaine Elam



Chorus

Too numerous to name, the Chorus is under the able direction of Mrs. J. James.



Drama Club

Too numerous to name, the Drama Club is under the fine direction of Mrs. J. White.



Drama Club is very fun. It teaches you about life and history and it gives you confidence.

James Johnson



Most Congenial

Alton Faltz, Johanna Gonzalez, and Jihad Ewing

Using our hands and minds

Sewing Club

T. Jackson, J. Gonzalez, D. Vernon, S. Fields, T. Anderson, A. Robinson, C. Wilson, S. Duncan, Q. Robinson, S. Jones, N. Neal, T. Knight, B. Henry.

Advisor:
Mrs. G. Johnson





Sewing is a quite, introspective hobby. The thoughts come at will, the needle is pliant. Camaraderie and laughter are always welcome, and the hour just flies.

Johanna Gonzalez

Chess Club

N. Mathis and J. McMillan.

Advisor:
Mr. J. Ransome





The chess club is a place where students can come after school to enjoy themselves while they are learning something new. Chess club is an educational activity for students who enjoy after school activities and strategical thinking. It is a club where you can have a friendly competition against friends and other.

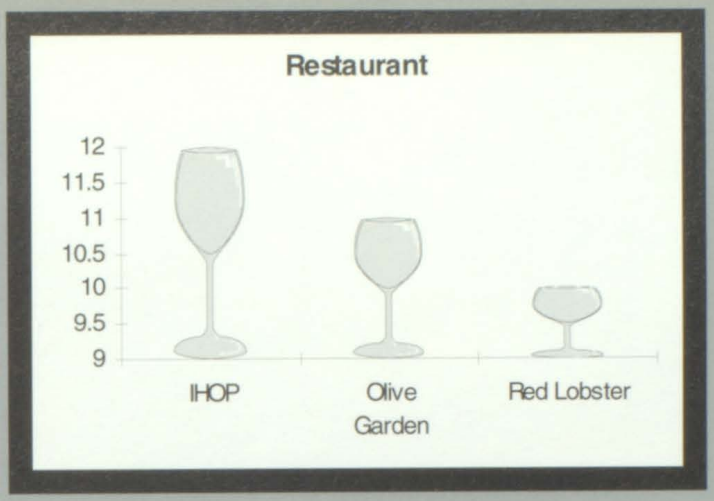
Sheena Chapman



Best Eyes- Dennis Lewis and Jilyan Conyers



Best Dressed Haile Henry and Sharee Fields





Proud of our school, Senior Luis Riveria giving a tour of our school.



Marie Carillo gives us a shy smile.



Class Grouches
Sahkeenah Wallace and Jerome Payne

Just Had to Hear Us Talking

Many of us have spent the last four or six years together. We have developed our own lingo, own short hand of speaking to each other. We just had to say it.

Here in *Big Uni*, the Seniors do what they want and others do what they can, if you don't know *Read the shirt*. If you still don't know, *Shame on Ya*. In our class we do nothing but get *Dipped up*. So *don't get it twisted* and *We Hate* when people look *DA WORST* and think that *They Done Threw It On*. *Specia* to those who talk down to the senior class and to those who agree, *Thats Where You Wrong*. To the *Piles and Piles* of people who try to copy our style, *You Don't Know Us Like That, Do You*. *Attention* to the *Drop Outs*, *Ya Think*, none in our class. *I Mean* people just be *Hit* mentally and physically and trying to down us, *Oh Pew*!! *Oh My* its just *A Mess* that people don't want to see us succeed but nothing can stop us, *And You Know Thats Right*. *Eeil* to those who wasn't down with us and to the people who was, *Well Okay*, *Oop* one more thing, for all those people who were there to help us succeed, *Ho Hum, Thank You*.

* Daffynations on page 37

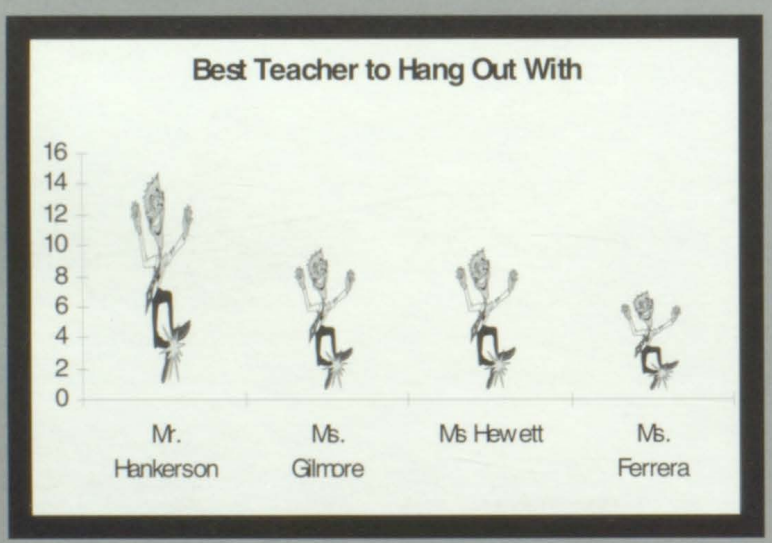
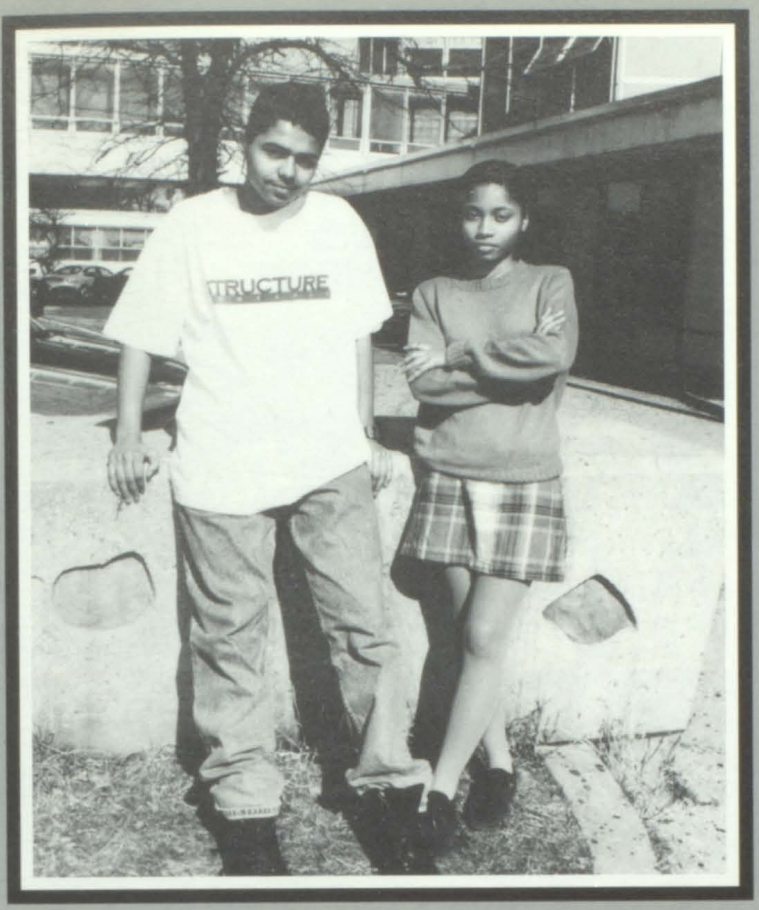




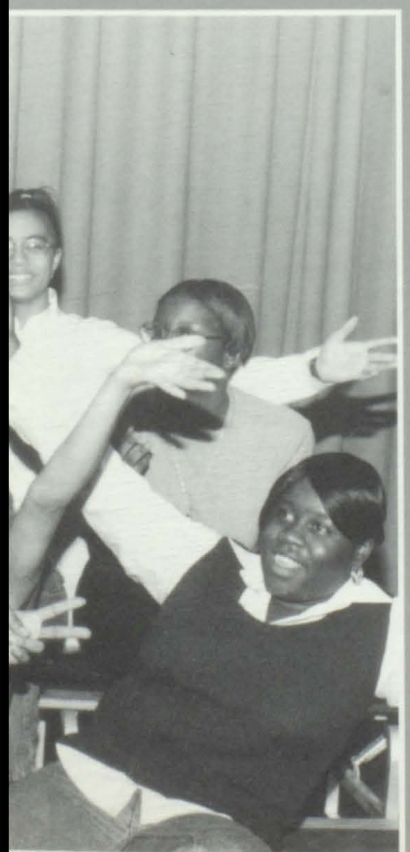
Photo Op Club - for those too busy or too disinterested in joining a real club.



Shortest
Carlos Rodriquez and Shakeera Benthall



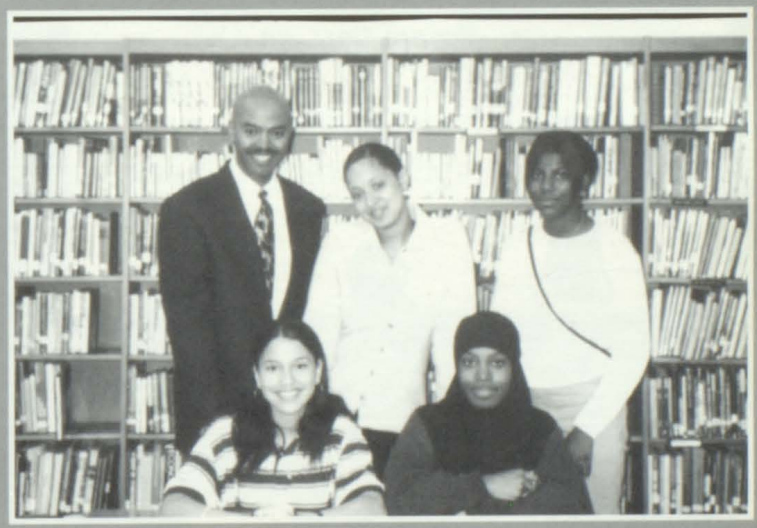
Class Humorists
Anise Robinson and Kasiem Randall



ACT-SO

Tameika Peters, Rabiah Torain, Natasha Feliciano, Maryam Abdur-Rahman

Advisor:
Mr. Darnell Davis

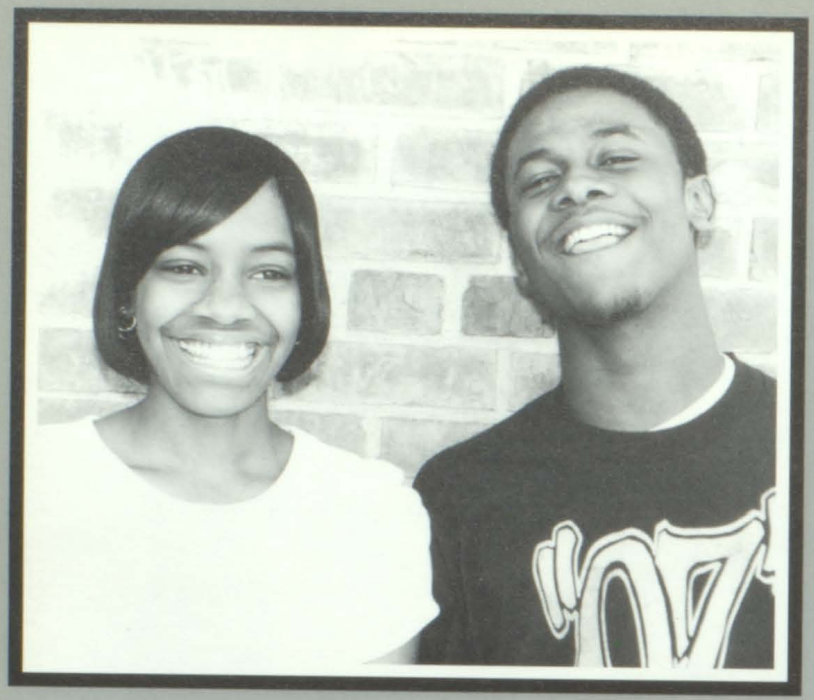


Jazz Band

P. McKinnley, T. Phillips, D. Caldwell, P. Booker, L. Pinckney.

Advisor:
Mr. J. Ransome

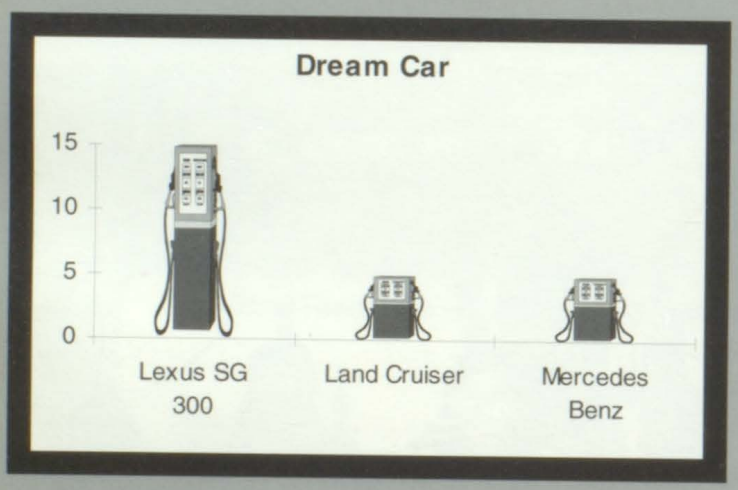


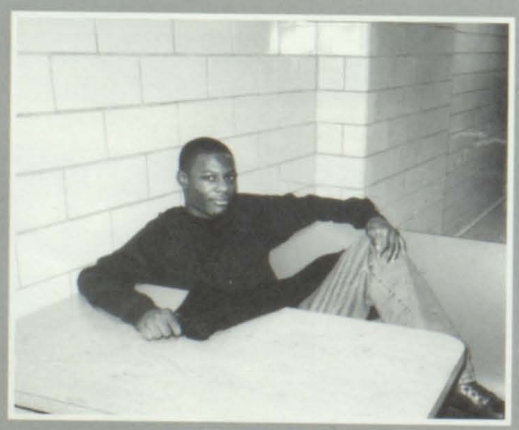


Best Smile
Hajar Abdus-Sabuur and Rasool Wright

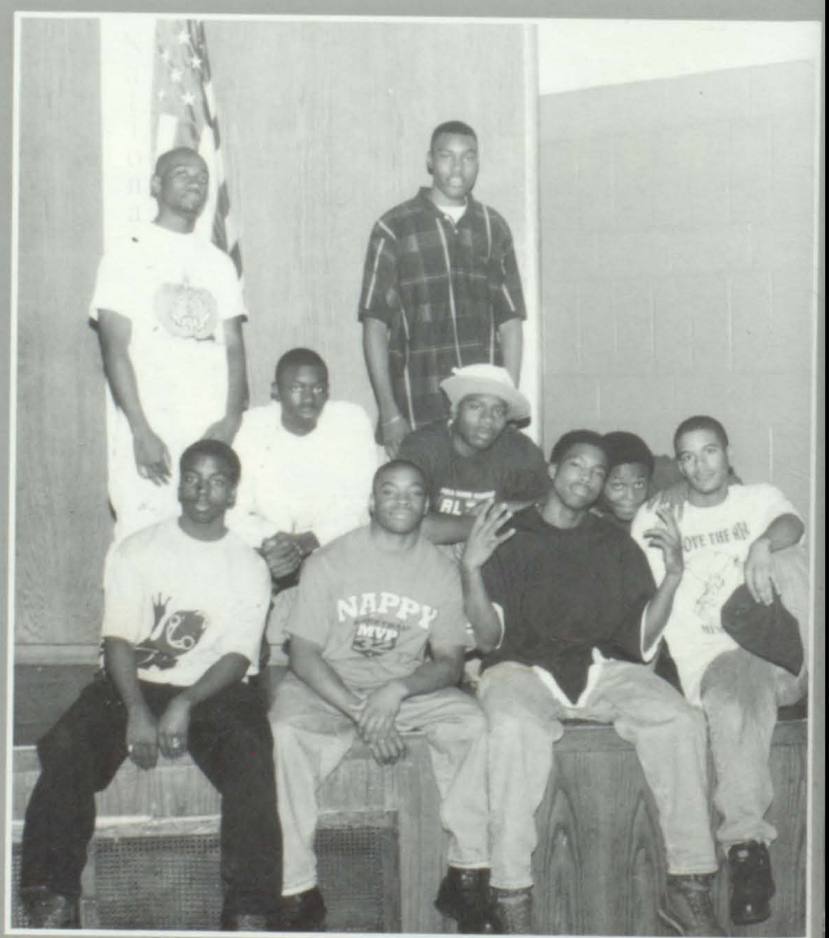


Most Studious
Shakira Scarborough and Sergio Godinho





Trust Nashid Kalimah to find a little hidden spot to chill.



The few, the proud, the men of 1997.

Daffynitions 97

Words

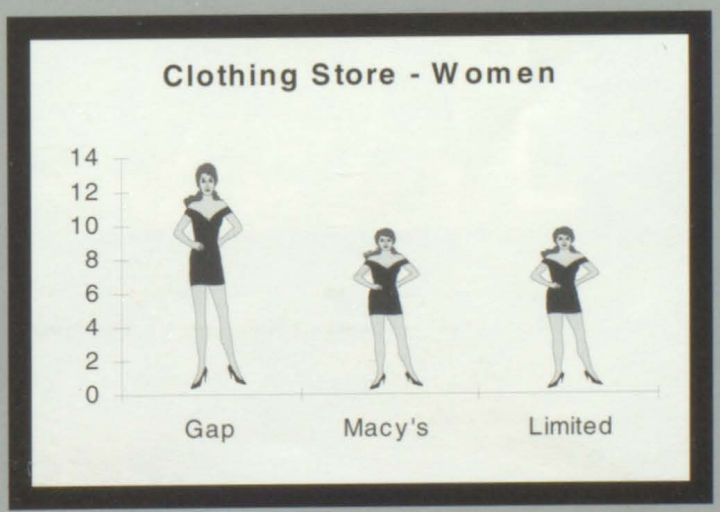
Attention - a desire for observation
Big Uni - reference to University High School
DaWorst - describing something ugly
Dipped Up - the act of dressing up for no reason
Do You - attend to your own business
Drop Out - one who rarely attends school
Eeill - a feeling of disgust
I Mean - to be shocked
Oh My - to be shocked
Oh Pew - a feeling of disgust, eeill.
Okay - an indication of extreme behavior
Oop - recognition of a fault
Special - describes one who speaks foolishly
Ya Think - said to someone who is ignoring the obvious
You Hit - description of ugliness, or the act of being marked for conflict

* See story on page 34

Phat Phrases

And You Know That's Right - phrase to emphasize the truth.
Don't Get it Twisted - Phrase used to confirm correct information.
Ho Hum, Thank You - Reference to Ms. Sheldon
I Hate - a sarcastic statement intended for dislike
Piles and Piles - a lot
Read the Shirt - reference to the Class of 1997 T-Shirt
Shame on Ya - phrase used instead of too bad.
That's a mess - the subject conveys a distasteful appearance.
That's Where You Wrong - used to acknowledge a false statement.
You Don Threw It On - remark used to explain one who looks extra nice or extra bad.
You Don't Know Me Like That - Statement used to acknowledge a disassociation.

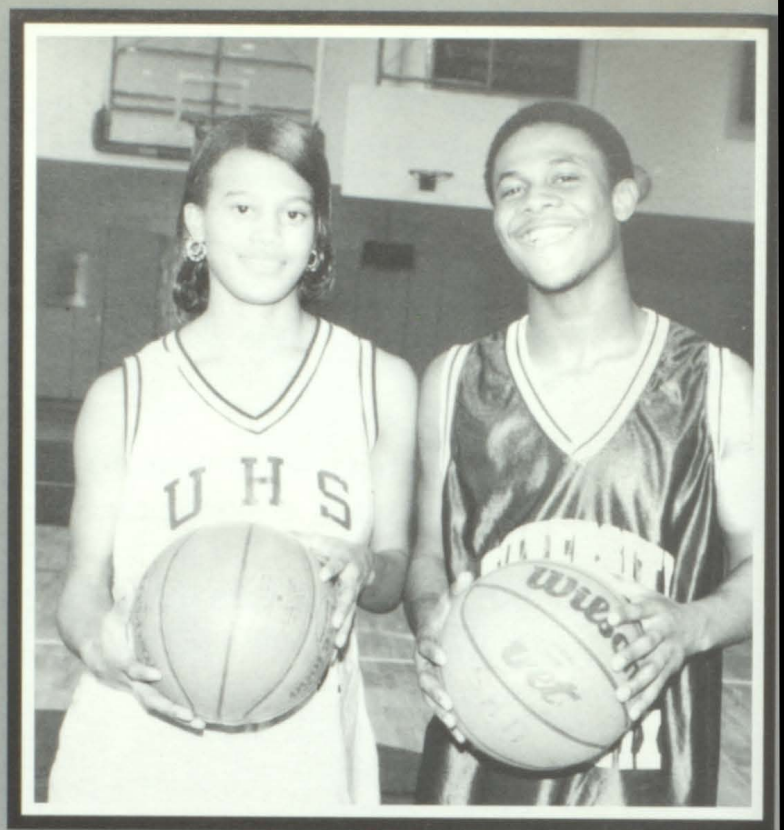




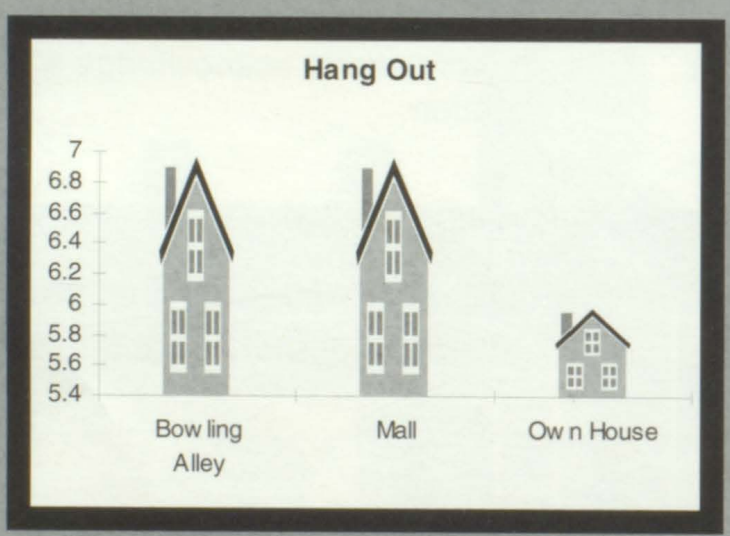
Is this Big Uni, or an alternate universe? Emptied hallway turned upside down.



The Master Story Teller
Alton Faltz



Most Athletic
Tyisha Bennett and Rasool Wright

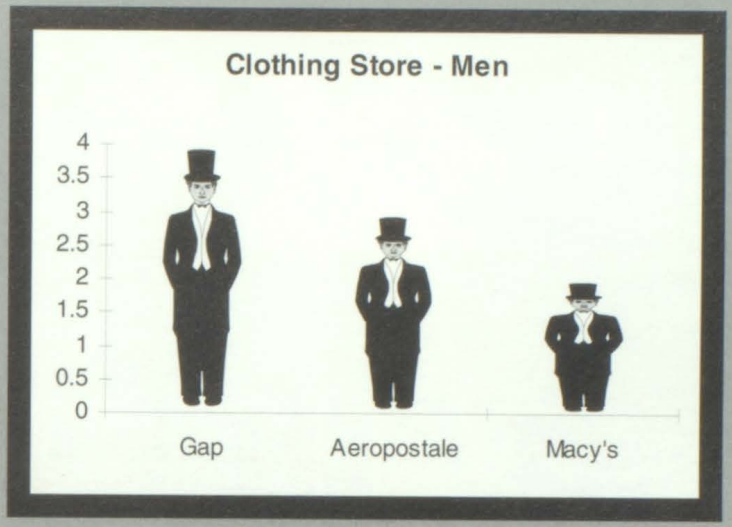


Sarwat lookin phat.



You were there....









U just had 2 there



Sporting Life

It can be said that true spirit lies in the individual who shows it strongest. If this saying is true, then the men and women of the volleyball, tennis, track, cheerleaders, pep squad, bowling and basketball teams certainly are examples of the Phoenix Spirit. For years, University has been applauded or given an "E" for effort, but the school year of 1997 has awarded them with a "W" for win and an "R" for respect. All these letters represent the ingredient that have made our girls and boys basketball teams, as well as other teams, champions in their own right. This year both basketball teams have great hopes to attend the State Championships, while setting a standard for future UHS teams to follow as they gain the respect within UHS that they so richly deserve.

True spirit lies in the individual who shows it strongest.



For a small school, we are powerfully endowed

Senior All Stars





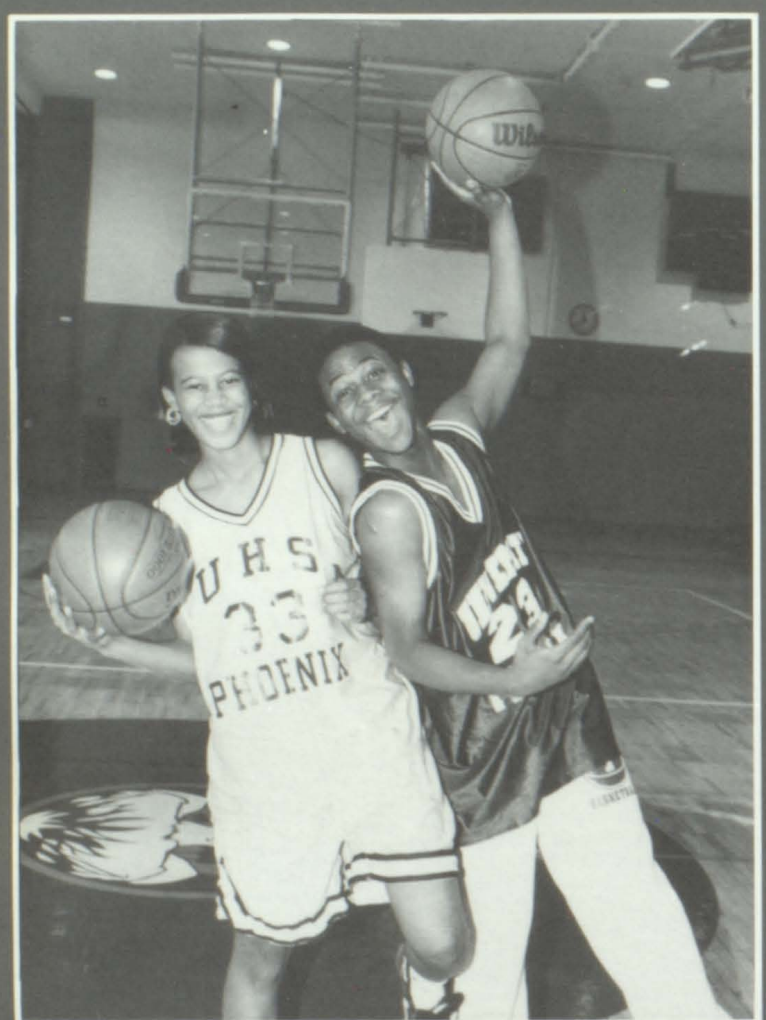
Basketball



Be There

December	20 Fri	Bernards	At	BHS	4:00
January	3 Fri	Glen Ridge	At	GRHS	4:00
	7 Tue	Bayley Ellard	At	BEHS	4:00
	8 Wed	Pingry	At	PHS	4:00
	10 Fri	Montclair Immaculate	At	UHS	4:00
	14 Tue	Kinnelon	At	KHS	4:00
	17 Fri	Cedar Grove	At	UHS	4:00
	21 Tue	Mountain Lakes	At	MLHS	4:00
	24 Fri	Newark Academy	At	UHS	4:00
	28 Tue	Glen Ridge	At	UHS	4:00
	31 Fri	Bayley Ellard	At	UHS	4:00
February	4 Tue	Montclair Immaculate	At	MIHS	4:00
	7 Fri	Kinnelon	At	UHS	4:00
	11 Tue	Cedar Grove	At	CGHS	4:00
	14 Fri	Mountain Lakes	At	UHS	4:00
	18 Tue	Newark Academy	At	NAHS	4:00
	21 Fri	Science	At	UHS	4:00
	24 Mon	Arts	At	UHS	4:00

Senior Captains Chuckle It Up.
Tyisha Bennett and Rasool Wright - a friendly rivalry.





At the Pep-Rally.
Having fun with the UHS Ballers.



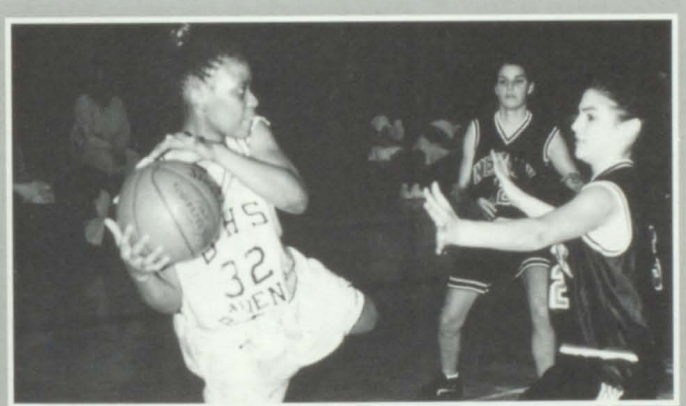


Lady Phoenix Basketball



Da Bomb

December	20 Fri	Bernards	At	UHS	4:00
January	3 Fri	Glen Ridge	At	UHS	4:00
	7 Tue	Bayley Ellard	At	UHS	4:00
	8 Wed	Pingry	At	UHS	4:00
	10 Fri	Montclair Immaculate	At	MIHS	4:00
	14 Tue	Kinnelon	At	UHS	4:00
	17 Fri	Cedar Grove	At	CGHS	4:00
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	7 Fri	Kinnelon	At	KHS	4:00
	11 Tue	Cedar Grove	At	UHS	4:00
	14 Fri	Mountain Lakes	At	MLHS	4:00
	18 Tue	Newark Academy	At	UHS	4:00
		Science	At	SHS	4:00
		Arts	At	AHS	4:00



Nobody can touch Genique's Offense.
G. Flournoy moves against Newark Academy.

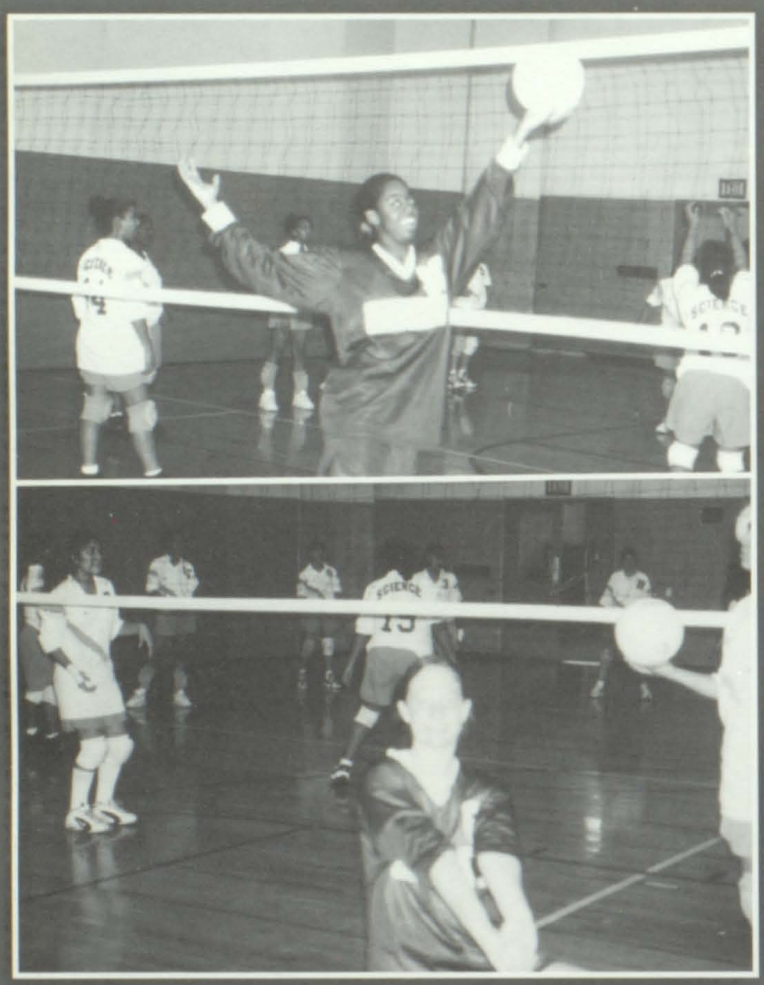
Check Out Neicy's D.
Anise Robinson is quick to the defense against Newark Academy.







Phoenix Lady Volleyball





Volley Ball

September	20	Fri	Immaculate Conception
	23	Mon	Marylawn
	25	Wed	Arts
	30	Mon	Weequahic
October	2	Wed	West Side
	7	Mon	Science
	8	Tue	Weequahic
	9	Wed	Arts
	10	Thu	Belleville
	14	Mon	Marylawn
	15	Tue	Bogota
	17	Thu	C. Scott
	18	Fri	Benedictine
	21	Mon	West Side
	23	Wed	Bogota
	28	Mon	Immaculate Conception
	29	Tue	Science



Volleyball seniors: Karla Furr, Tyisha Bennett, Shennell Hardy, Anise Robinson, Tanisha Anderson and Genique Flournoy.















The Varsity Cheerleaders strike a pose.





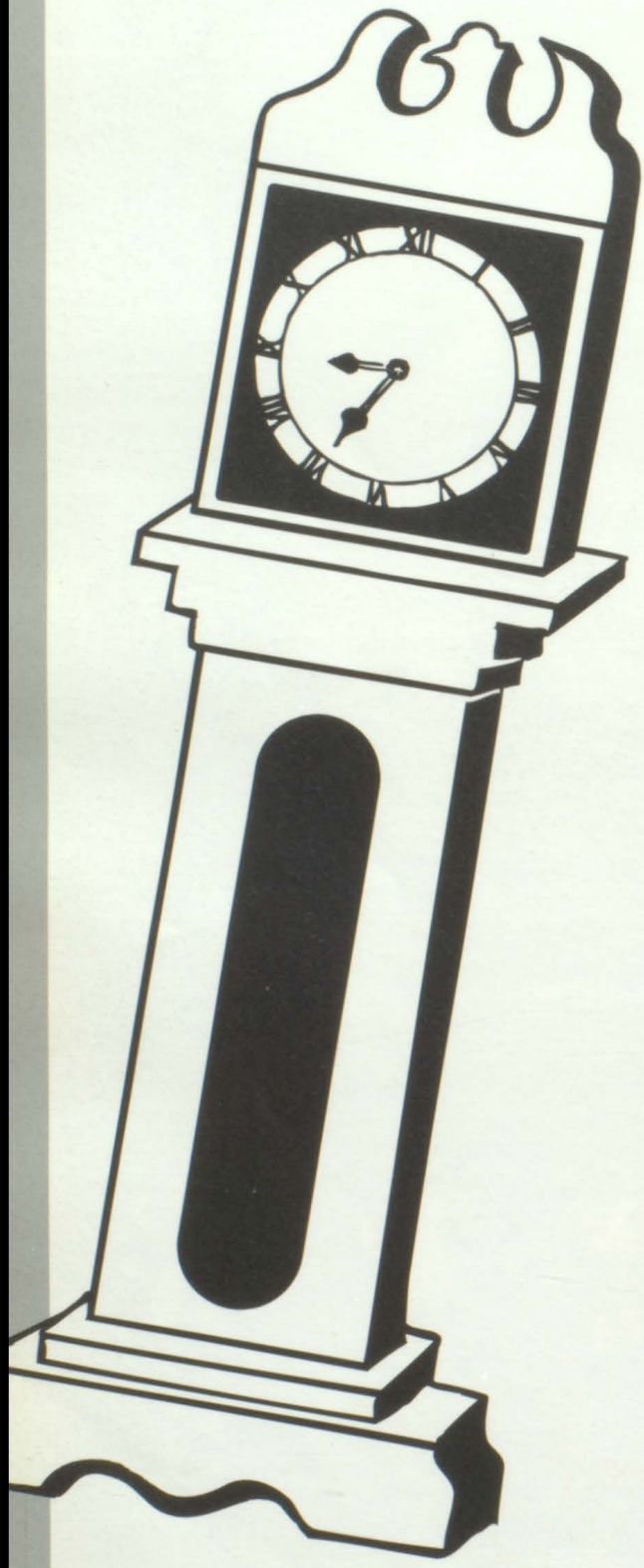
Nobody steps like UHS Steps.
The Pep Squad getting it together.



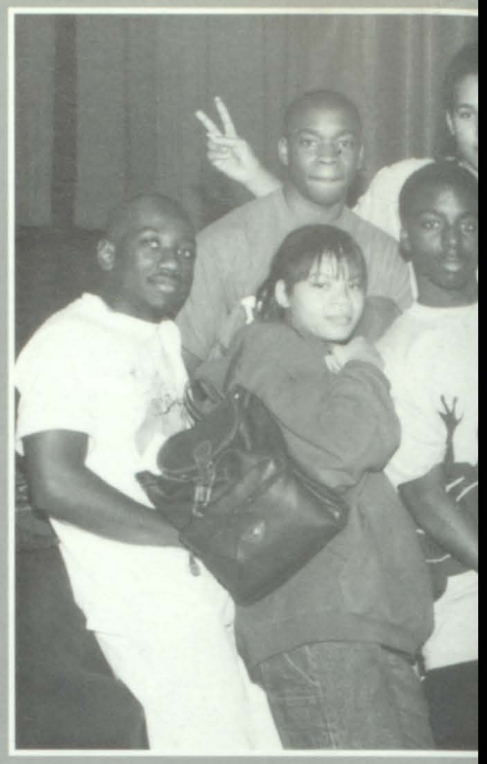


Getting Psyched
The first pep rally gets underway.

You were there.....





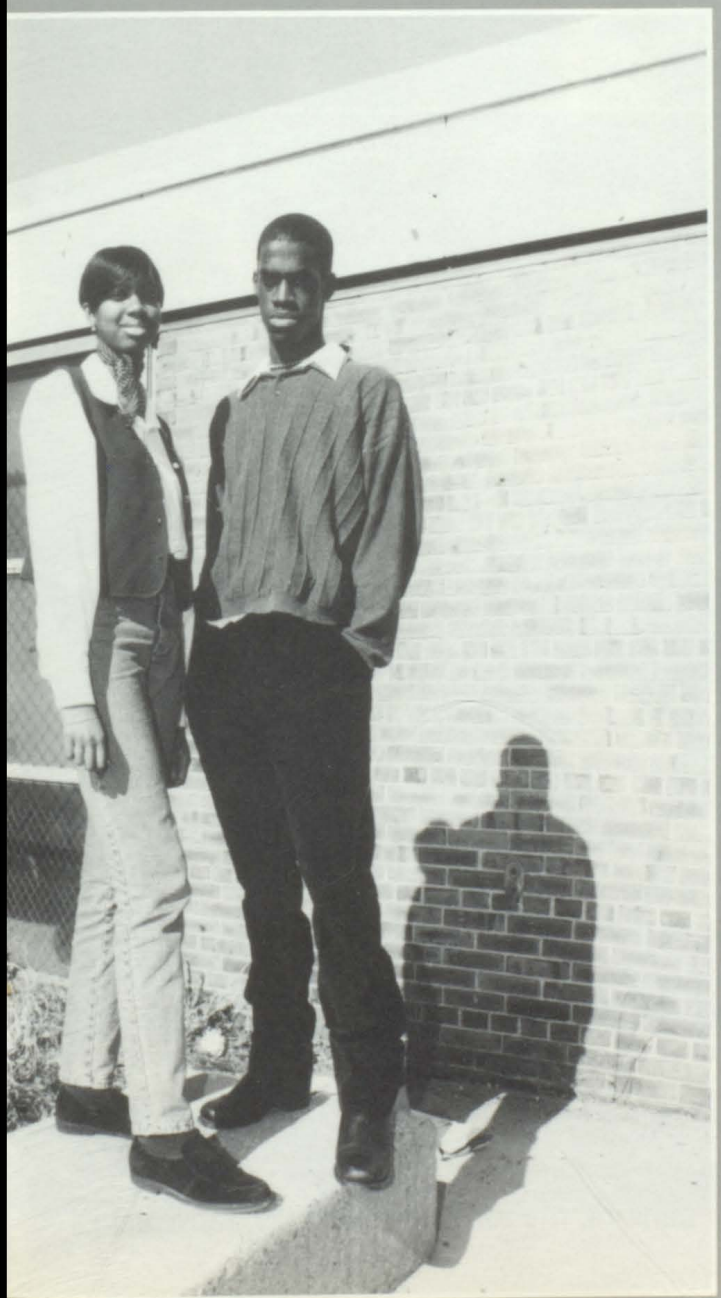


















Seniors Rule

Oh my seniors-my beautiful '97 senior class whose diversity measures the strength of the universe. Love goes to my radiant senior class upon whom animosity, jealousy, competition, and ugliness bear no followers. Amazement and wonder goes out to my intellectual senior class who excel in English, Mathematics, History, and Science. Respect goes out to my athletic senior class who triumphs in Basketball, Track, Volleyball, and Softball. Envy goes out to my "voguing" senior class who walk with attitude and respect on those catwalks. Peace goes out to my fearless senior class who staged walkouts and struggles over political injustices. Congratulations goes out to the class who are more than just seniors, but leaders of others and themselves.

Our diversity measures the strength of the universe

For those of us who entered University in 7th grade, those gifted and talented days are finally over. Those days of feeling unprepared for class (although some of us are still unprepared for class) are over. Do you remember being scared seventh graders? Or do you remember wanting to feel popular and unafraid of your new surroundings? Well most of us who entered University in the seventh grade remember feeling angry and bored at having to stay in the same cluster for most of our classes. Now we get tired of having to walk to the third floor, but get happy when we go to our own cars after school.

Do you remember Mr. Moore's Science Nerd Herd, Mrs. Gironda Latin Classes, and the other Gifted and Talented teachers like Mrs. Andrews and Ms. Edmonson. Those days of studying too hard, having our backpacks filled with tons of books, rushing to class, and wanting to please our teachers are over. Now most of us just lounge in the hallways on our way to class, because the nervousness that embodied most of us on our first day in University has changed to relaxation in a school that we now know so well.

Oh my seniors, my fond companions, farewell!



HAJAR ABDUS-SABUUR
JOY ALLEN
TANISHA ANDERSON

DORETHA ARMSTEAD
KATHERINE BAPTISTE
AQUELLA BELL

KELLI BELL
TYISHA BENNETT
SHAKEERAH BENTHALL

AISHA BLACKWELL
SHAKIRA BOBBITT
AKILAH BOWDEN

THE CLASS OF 1997

Sameerah Brenbow
Latysha Brown
Stacy Brown





Katina Buchanan
Maria Carrillo
Jilyan Conyers



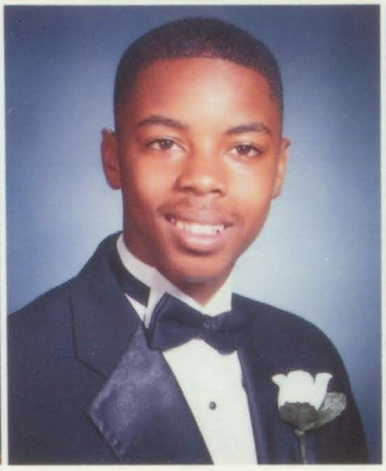


Aneesha Crenshaw
Elizabeth Cruz
La'Tesha Curry





Naimah Days
Victor Dent
Siddeeqah Duncan

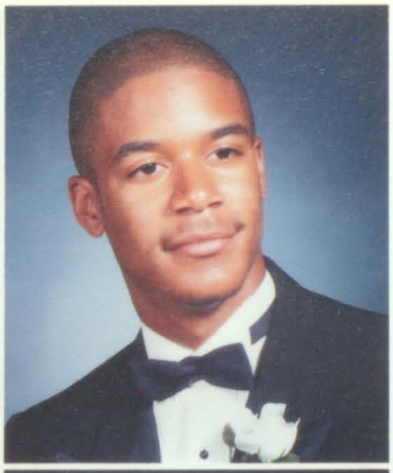






Sharmaine Elam



Jihad Ewings



Alton Faltz



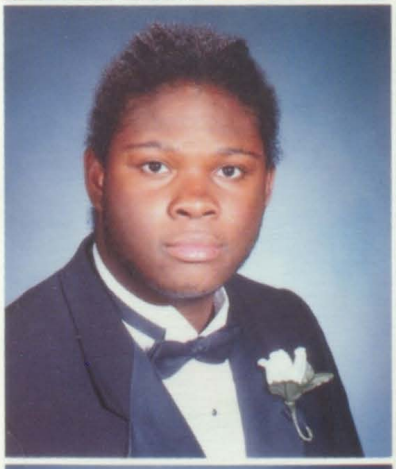
Sharree Fields



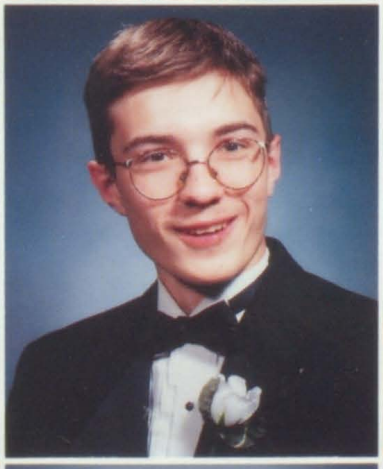
Genique Flournoy



Karla Furr



Jabez Gatson



Sergio Godinho



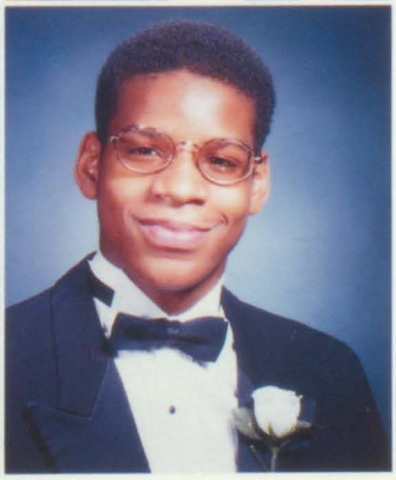
Johanna Gonzalez



Shennell Hardy



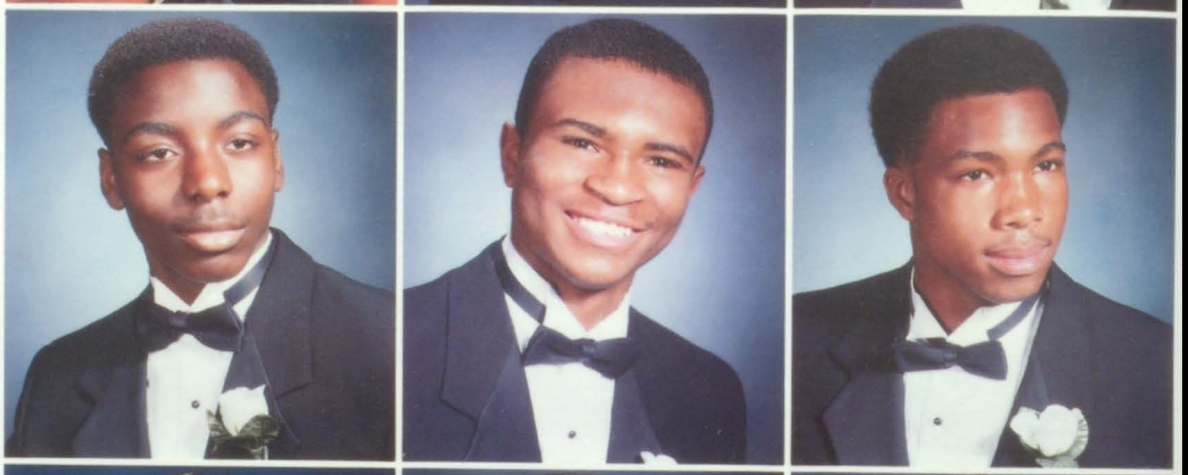
Siddeequah Harris



Todd Harris



QIANA HART
BRENDALYN HENRY
HAILE HENRY



ERNEST HINTON
JERRY IRVING
MICHAEL IVERY

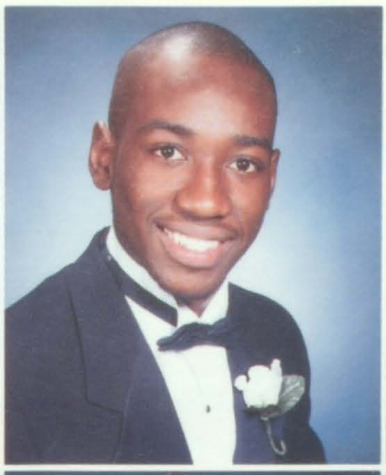


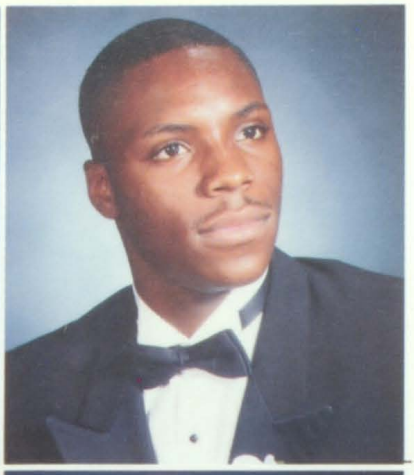
NAIKIMAH JACKSON
TIA JACKSON
FATIYAUH JONES



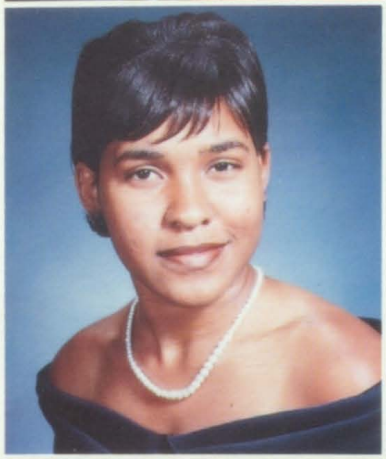
SADIRA JONES
TIQUA KNIGHT
ALISHA LEE







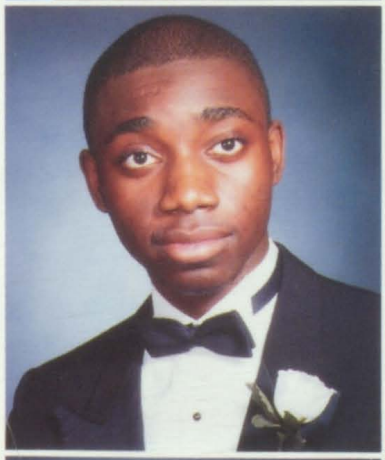
Camika Lewis
Dennis Lewis
Adries Lockhart



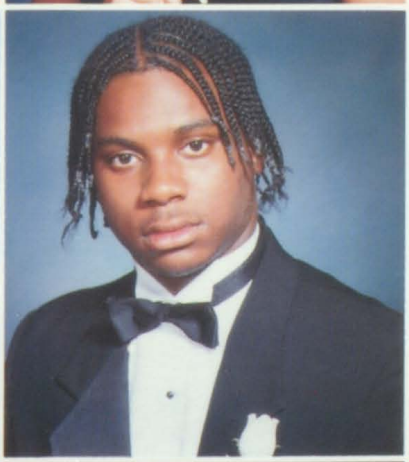




Asia McMillan
Melinda Murphy
Nikkia Neal



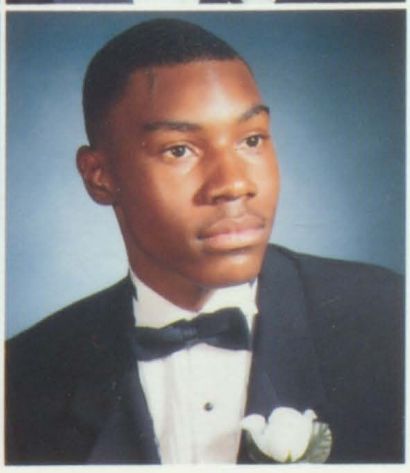




Ugo Nwachukwu
Sharell Parker
Jerome Payne

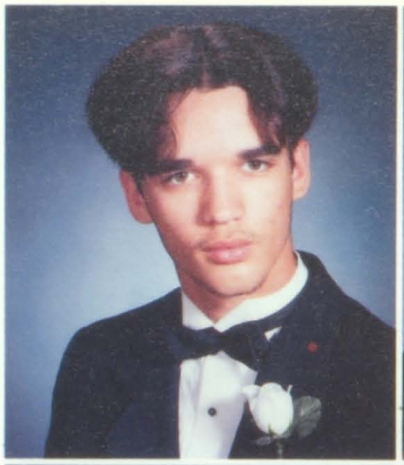






Syreeta Pittman
Kenya Pope
Kasiem Randall

Luis Rivera
Anise Robinson
Qiana Robinson

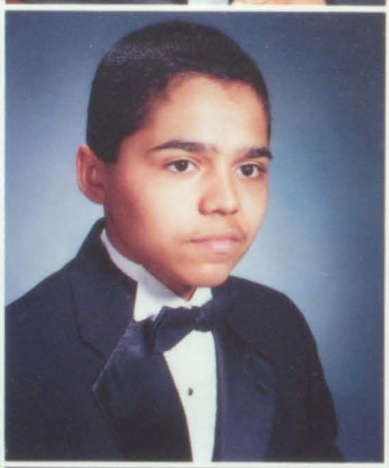


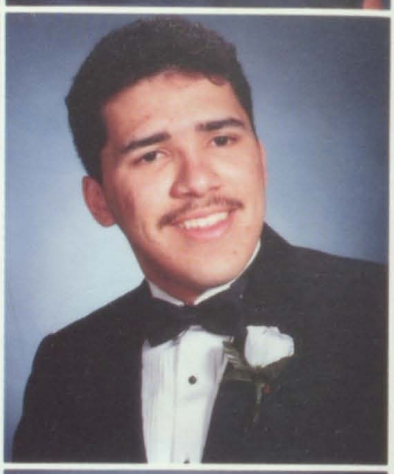




Tauheedah Robinson
Carlos Rodriquez
Gamaliel Rodriquez

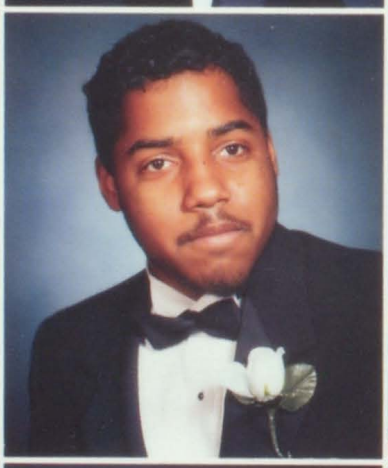






Jennifer Rooks
Vicente Rosa
Taeyma Sapp



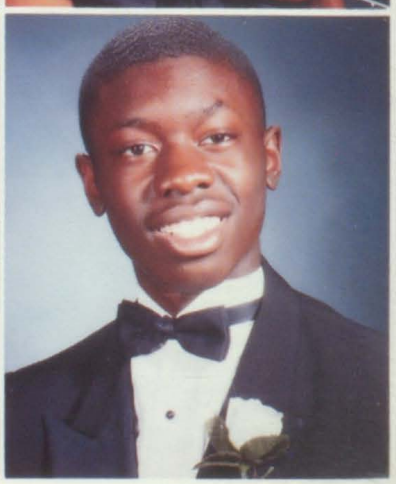




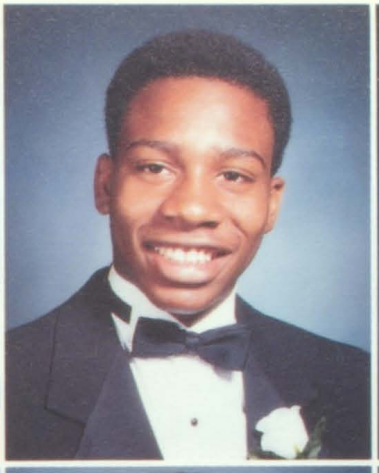
Shakera Scarborough
Kenneshia Simmons
Orinthius Simmons







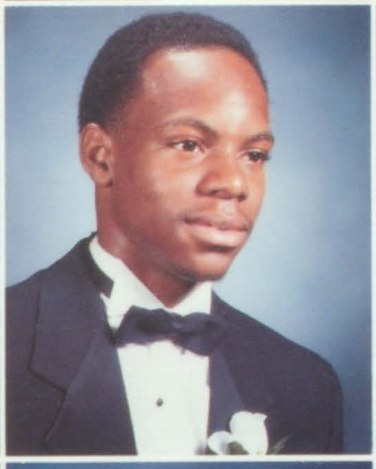






MARGARET STEVENS
SHAREF TALBERT
DANILLE VERNON



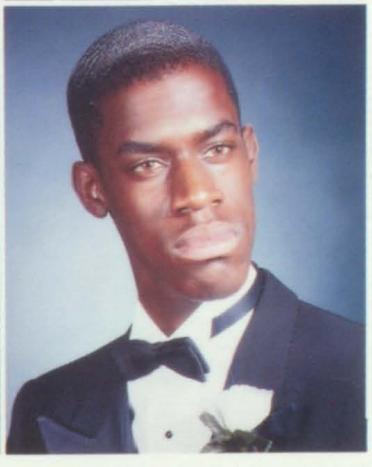




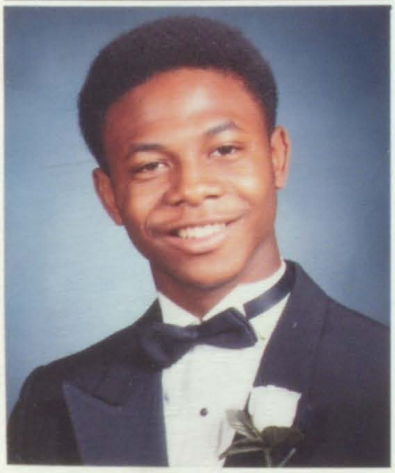
SAHKEENAH WALLACE
TERRELL WASHINGTON
MITZI WILLIAMS







CHANEL WILSON
RANELL WILSON
BARON WRIGHT



RASOOL WRIGHT



The Class of 1997





Six Year Students

Ms. Doris Culver

Mrs. Culver has been our principal ever since we were here. Her promotion during our senior year left a void difficult to feel. We thank you and wish her well.



Dear Graduates,
Congratulations on a job well done! As I think back over your high school years, I think of your many accomplishments as a class and as individuals. I am impressed with your excellence. You have performed well academically and creatively, while demonstrating a growing sense of social responsibility.

Now you are ready to move on to new experiences and even greater challenges, just as I am. Through such experiences and challenges, I hope you and I will discover myriad opportunities for greater achievements as well as more significant personal and creative accomplishments in our respective new surroundings. Both our futures hold great promise for our community and our fellow human beings.

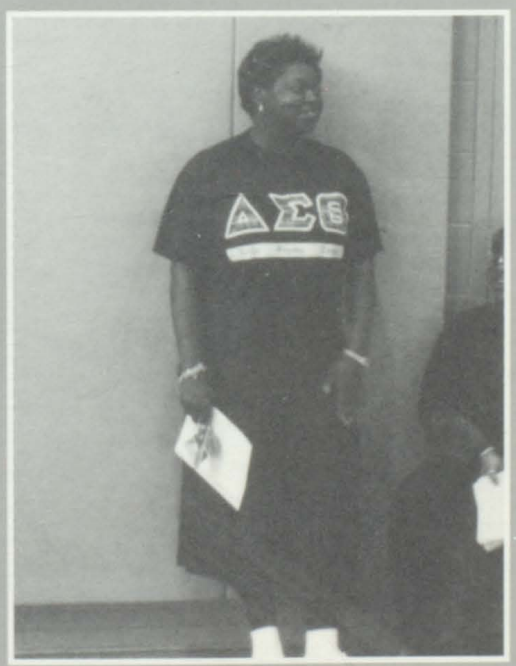
As you move on to new opportunities, remember to remain steadfast and resolute in the pursuit of high standards in all aspects of your personal, academic and community life. As you pursue the personal goals of life and career, remember to focus your talents and abilities on improving your community and our world.

Best wishes and continue success to you all.

Doris Culver.

Ms. Joylette Mills-Ransome

A Renaissance Woman



A picture is worth a thousand words, and we have captured Mrs. Ransome perfectly. Notice her sneakers. She is active in any number of things around the school, including coaching the volleyball and bowling teams, she needs those sneakers to get around. Notice the tee-shirt with its Delta logo. She is an active member of her sorority. The papers she carries in her hand are probably test papers which she must grade, for she is a gifted and exacting educator who holds her students to high standards. Or the sheets of paper might be Core Team correspondence which need her sagacity if not signature.

With all her responsibilities, Mrs. Mills-Ransome has not only advised our class for the past four years, but also, taught us how to organize, run meetings, meet responsibilities, and produce fashion shows, talent shows, pageants and other events with professional results.

All our thanks for all you have done for us. We will remember you always, and wish you well with future classes.

Hajar Abdus Sabuur

I am finally out! My time in UHS has come to an end. The 6 years that I have been here were memorable, short, & extremely important to my development. In the course of my jr. & high school years, I've learned to luv & cherish many people. First & foremost I'd like to give all praise to Allah for without his blessing nothing would be possible.To my family & my parents, Umie & Abah thanks for your love, support, and caring-I love you with all my heart. To my ace-boom, Tyi B. "much luv to ya and I will see ya in college". To Munch "keep your head up and you know I'll always be there for you". To my lil' mama Chyna " I wuv ya". To my comrades, rebels, and peoples Karla and Margaret " See you on the front line and I love you guys". Thanx so much for your guidance- Ms.Jones, Mr.Davis & Mr. Brown. I'll never forget "falling out the window.....", "when Munch hit me with her shoe.....", "busting out of school....,



" but I guess ***You Just Had To Be There***!

I have been here now for four years. In the beginning I didn't have any friends, but as time went on I made a lot of friends, with whom I am still friendly. I still miss Robert Rivera. We started to become friends, and now he is gone.

There are several people who I would like to thank: My mother, first of all. She has always given me support and understanding. I love you Mom. I would like to thank God, with whose help, everything is possible. I would like to thank Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Stephenson and Ms. Sanford for always telling me to keep on going, even when I didn't want to.

I would like to give a shout-out to Lisette, Shakeerah, Melinda, Dwayne and my cousin April.



Joy Allan

Tanisha Anderson



Well I finally made it, I'm leaving U H S . I would like to thank God & my family for always being in my corner. Thanks mom, Dad & Nana for keeping my spirits up & giving me unconditional love. Also I'd like to thank all the teachers who I have worked with for making my stay here pleasant. I'd like to give a shout out to the Xinos & "P in L" (Partners in Lunch). We had some good times in the caf., our support group & most of all I'm gonna miss Qiana's loud laughing outburst, but ***"You Just Had to Be There."*** I'd like to give a big shout out to the Class of '97, I'm gonna miss y'all! I'd like to shout out to La-Vonne, Lisa, Ref & Lydelle, thanks for being there when I had no one else to turn to. Keyonna & Domonick, love ya! Last but definitely not least I'd like to thank that special person in my life, my heart & my love, Jerome, thanks for always being there when I needed you.
Good Luck,

Tanisha

Doretha Armstead

First of all, I give honor to God for keeping me healthy and strong through my years here at University High School because without Him, I don't know where or what I would be. To my mother, Pastor Barbara, Pastor Terrell, Young Disciples, the U.M.Y.F., and my church family I say thank you for being there for me. To Romona I give a special thanks for setting a good Christian example and for being a friend. Hugs and kisses to all those who knew me and cared! To my supporters and arch-angels: Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Beaumont, Aisha, all the teachers



that I was fortunate to have, Ms. Jones, and several others I hope to see you again. I send many prayers and wish many blessings for you in the future. Through good times and trials I have learned a lot and would not change any part of the past for the world. It's time to move on. Best wishes to the whole graduating class of 1997 - ***You Just Had to Be There!***

Katherine Baptiste

I've traveled a long road in University, but with per sistence and determination. I've gotten through it all. I am proud to say that I have accomplished a lot. None of my achievements would exist without acknowledging certain people. First, I would like to thank God for all the blessings that He has bestowed upon me. Without Him nothing is possible.

Secondly, I'd like to thank my parents. The both of you have been there for me through everything. Without your love and guidance, I would not have been able to



get this far. Merci, mil fois merci. To Max, Violette, Hugues, Ruth, David, and Lou, thanks for all the good times and the great advice. To Darlene and Joy, thanks for always keeping me out of trouble. To Moise, I got nuttin' but love for ya. I give much love to Dennis, Adries, Liz, Ed, Jerry, Da Table, P in L (Partners in Lunch), the Lunch Crew, the perverted monks, and the ghetto girls; thanks for the laughs.

Finally, I'd like to give a big shout out to the class of '97. Thanks for all the memories and the good times....but *I guess you just had to be there!*



It is hard to say good-bye without reminiscing on all the friends and events that I have had the pleasure of knowing and experiencing. I am obliged to say that without the guidance of my family and Jehovah God nothing was or will be possible. Many thanks to ten



individuals: Niecy, Stacy, Brendalyn, Chanel, Syreeta, Aneesha, Nashid, Kiera, and Qiana ,who played a significant role in allowing me to know who I am and be just that. I can not show enough gratitude to all my teachers past and present who have shown me the true value of education and the importance of time management. As I leave University I take with me a sense of self, future, friendship and family.

R. V. C.
Forever

Aquella Bell

Kelli Bell



I'm ready, set & prepared 2 go! I have come 2 the point in my life where it's time 2 move on 2 bigger & better things. I accept the challenges that lie ahead of me. My 6 years at U.H.S. have seemed 2 last a lifetime, but now that it's all said & done it's hard 2 say goodbye 2 the folks, fun, laughter & tears. In simpler terms, *You Just Had To Be There!!* 1st thanks goes II God for his unchanging hands. Thanks Mommie & Daddie 4 your unconditional love & support. Myriam & Cyndi, you mean the world 2 me. Chuckey, Heaven, Melodee & June-June on da way I love you all. 2 Aunt Pam, you're 1in a 1,000,000. Tia, my best friend, thanx for being there. To all my Xinos, much love and respect. Tara, we're friends 4 life. 2 Jill, Asia, Sadira & Tiqua, remember that night at Brick City? To the C/O 97, I wish you much success and I will never forget our years together. I'm out for the 9-7.

Tyisha Bennett

The time has come for the C/O 97 to go our separate ways. Together we have created memories that will last forever...BUT U JUST HAD 2 B THERE! I will miss some people, but will remain strong & wish the C/O 97 the best!

While leaving UHS, I thank certain individuals. First, I want to thank GOD for everything! Special thanks to my mother & grandmother for being my inspiration & for being there when I needed you. Thanks to my aunt Alisha and Shaheen for being my best friends. To the rest of my family, I LOVE U ALL! To my peeps, Haj, U've been a great friend & much luv 2 U! Kel23 (peep of all peeps), thanks



for keeping it real & much luv kid! Adries & Dennis, I' ve known U forever & I give U much luv. PLP, stay strong & keep fighting! Sahkeenah & Jennifer, we're spectators for life! Rasool, Jerry, & Ref y'all my boyz of all boyz! Kenya & Haile, it was all fun & games. Scarb & Na keep reading "them" encyclopedias. Ms. Hewett and Ms. Barnes, thanks for everything. The rest of my peeps, keep ya heads up!

U just had 2 there

Shakeerah Benthall

"All experience is an arch to build upon."
-Henry Adams



The above quote relates to my feelings of graduating from University High and being "reborn" into a new lifestyle and new society.

During my 6 years at University High, I've learned a lot about life itself. I've learned to laugh when situations were burdensome, to cry when situations were spiritually tearing me apart, to pray as a method of recuperation, and to rebel as a way of showing my unhappiness and depression. No matter what the situation brought forth, I've learned the most important ability one can attain... the ability to persevere in order to rise above my difficulties, to succeed and make myself happy. In the process of becoming a success, I don't want to linger in the hardships which I've encountered, but the memories, teachings, and influences I've left behind for my younger sister, Elish and all of my younger brothers and sisters in University High. Now the time has come finally for Shakeerah Benthall to have the final say..."Veni, Vidi, Vici".



During my four years at University, I pretty much kept to myself. Although, I enjoyed talking to Doreatha, and bugging out at the table. I was friends with the seniors who graduated last year, Nikkia Harris, and Fatimah Provillon, Keisha Peynado, Farrah Clarke and Nikia.



I would like to give thanks to Mr. Hayes, Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Stephenson and my friends who came to my baby's shower and came to see me in the hospital. I would also like to thank my Mom and my Dad for being there for me through my whole life.

I would like to give shout outs to Doreatha, Stacy, Brendalyn, Kennisha, Joy, Comika, and Missy. I would like to say good bye to the whole senior class, and see you when I see you. Good luck throughout the years, as they go by.

Aisha Blackwell

Sha'kira Bobbitt

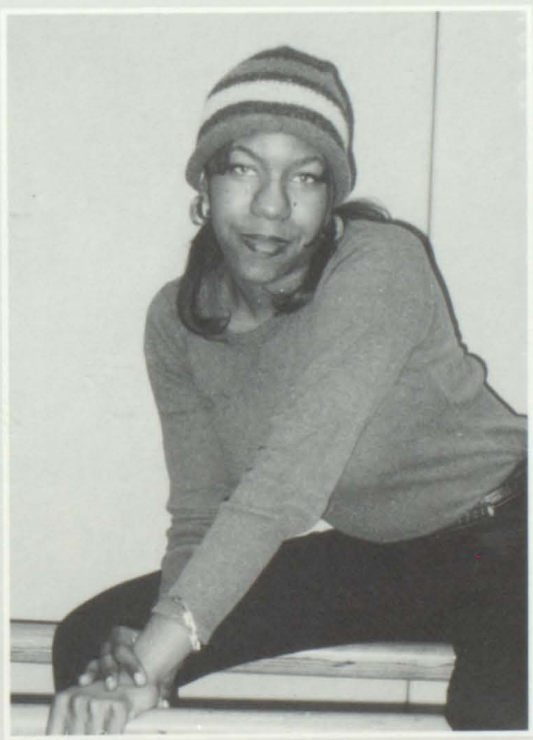


Well this is it...The year I've waited 5 years for! First, I would like to thank my family. Your love and support have carried me and will always be with me. My six years at University High were made easier by several special and helpful teachers and staff members. Thank you, you know who you are, for letting me cut class, for all the copies and phone calls, and everything else I needed.

I've saved the best for last! To the best friends anyone could ever ask for, Fatiyauh, Baron, and Kima. Without them, I would not be the person that I am. I will always remember and cherish the times we've shared. So it is with undying love and respect that I dedicate all that I am and ever will be to you - my beloved friends. Looking back on the good years at University High...well, you just had to be there-I'm glad I was! Well everybody, I'll miss you all and I guess I'll you see at the crossroads!

Will one half page be enough to express my feelings about my years at University?

I doubt it, but I would just like to say that I am happy to have graduated with the class of '97. The most versatile, unique and crazy class to evolve from UHS. I will miss everyone, even though certain disagreements arose over the years, but even sisters fight and eventually they get over it. We all grew up together and I'm just realizing that. I don't care what anyone says, the class of '97 is Da Bomb. Best of luck to all, NNT, my two best friends Katina and Melinda. Peace to Tisha Curry and Qiana my freshman friends, Joy, Cos-Z, Qua, Slick, Ranell, Forty, Naikimah, Baron and Fatiyauh.



To my favorite teacher Mr. Hankerson and my most aggravating teacher, Mr. Charles, who in some twisted , crazy way I will miss. Thank God for letting me make it ,and thanks to all the teachers and staff at University.

Peace,
Keita
A.K.A. Deceit

Akilah Bowden

Sameerah Brenbow



I want to thank my grandmother for making everything possible and for the extra push. My sisters Rajeeyah and Shonda, I love you both. To my mother: This is for you, I love you and I miss you very much. R.I.P. To the Francois family, thanks for the advice, love, and generosity you guys have shown me and for that I am ever so grateful to you all. To the love of my life and best friend Joey, despite of all the drama we have been through baby, I Love You Dearly. I appreciate you and I am so very proud of you. Thanks for everything. Special shout out to Tanya, and Tia good luck in the future. To Alisha: May your life be prosperous and take care of Imani. To: Danille, Sharree, Sharmaine, Sahkeenah, Happy, Tauheedah, Rasool, Nelly, Micheal, Tanisha, Shakera, Tysha B., Jill, Dennis, Gennifer, and Deeka thanks for all the headaches as well as laughs. To the class of '97, I will miss you all!!! And to everyone else: "You Just Had To Be There"... it's a 97' thing you wouldn't understand.



First and foremost, Mommy, I ain't mad at cha and despite what happens you are appreciated. Next comes my boy Dries cause without you, I probably would have given up a long time ago, thanks for being there for me during all the hard times and the good ones as well. Much Love to my Spencer Heads I've spent most of my life with you guys and to think of us parting really hurts. I'm going to miss you, Head (Haile). Denny, I'm gonna miss you too, and the biggest BEEP BEEP goes out to Da' Wench Mob. I love you all but don't have enough "characters for individual shoutouts." I really want to thank my aunt Carlene and Uncle Larry for everything, and all my family who helped me to get where I am going. The most thanks goes to Jehovah God for making all this possible even with the help of all my family and friends, if it was not for Jehovah I would be totally lost. U just had 2 B there much luv to the class of 97.

Latysha Brown

Stacy Brown



My four years at University have been long and hard, but it's finally over. I have to say I learned a lot and met some of the greatest friends anyone could ask for. I want to say thanks to my family, especially my mother for always being there. I also want to thank Evelyn for being my friend through thick and thin. Thanks to Mr. Davis for helping me through my three years of math with Hank. Much love to the Triangle that became the Octogon (Aneesha, Aquella, Brendalyn, Anise, Qiana, Chanel, and Syreeta) and I didn't forget about you Nas. For everybody else: *You just had to be there!*

Riverside



First and foremost I would like to thank my grand mother for being there for me and helping me for the past thirteen years of my life, pushing me to complete high school and giving me enough guidance to go to college. Next I would like to thank my two best friends Akilah Bowden (Deceit) and Melinda Murphy (Torch), who have been here with me for six years and Akilah for two extra years before we walked through the doors of University in September of our seventh grade year together. I would like to thank and commemorate all my teachers but most of all I would like thank Ms. Jones and Mr. Hankerson for their support, inspiration, and for helping to realize I am one of the best. Lastly I would like to quote my favorite church song "I'm glad I made it. I'm glad I made it through it all. God brought me through.".

SNATCH

Katina Buchanan

Maria Carillo

I came here during my sophomore year, transferring from Barringer High school. I made friends fairly quickly. I especially enjoyed the art class with Mrs. Jackson, where I made a pinata Micky Mouse. It was displayed in the Library's show case. *You had to have been there.*

Special thanks to my mother, she has always encouraged me to do my best, and get my education. She has always been very proud of me and, I love her very much. I would like to thank my teachers. Starting with Mr. Hayes who has taught me a lot, and kept after me to do my work. Ms. Muhammad and Ms. Sanford and Ms. Stephenson.

Shout outs go to Camika, Gerard, Jabazz, and the lunch crew: Jamie, Richard, Vincente, Louis, and Joy, and the rest of them. Good luck to the Class of 1997.





i have realized so much about love, happiness, friends, maturity and the world. i have high school and all these people to thank. thanx to the people who taught me all i know about friendship. rip, mc, jc, dk, kl. to eht seltaeb, thanx for the inspiration and entertainment. thanx to the girls who gave me people to relate to. to my raq, thanx for owning the footsteps i wouldnt mind following in. to my parents, thanx for your wisdom and guidance. to all my family ill always love and appreciate you. to swell, putanka, apple and weegee, we'll be keer girls for life. to kel w, tre de de lump de lump de lump! to the cipher, thanx for the laughs and the lessons. thanx to the people who showed me there can be unity in individuality. to my flameboy, ill always value the times we've shared. to my butter pecan ricans, what would i have done without those ears? to my in-school-brothers, thanx for being there. ill always remember those talks. i know ive included alot of initials and inferences, to understand this, *you just had to be there.*

Jilyan Conyers

Aneesha Crenshaw

Finally, **I** can say : I **have** survived! We have **come** a long way. Without the help of merciful God, **I** would not **have** triumphed over the obstacles that threatened to deter me from the path of knowledge.

Ma , thanks for being my best friend and motivator. You've **seen** me go through many changes and you have always been there for me. **I** love and adore you dearly.

Octagon, we **have** grown so close and we have**conquered** many hardships. I want to thank my girls for years of true friendship: Brenda, thanks for being my favorite "ghetto gal" since day one of 7th grade. To



"Mushroom Head" Stacy, thanks for always being a phone call away. "Missy" (Qiana) I will miss my personal fashion consultant . Neicy, thanks for keeping us rollin', even on rainy days. 'Quela, thanks for always letting me know what "the deal" was. 'Reeta, you da craziest girl ever . Don't ever change. To goofy Nellie, "think before you act!" Luv Y'all!

I also wanna thank Boo-Boo for being my comforter and confidant. I love you with the love of God forever, and ever.



Six years and it seem like a lifetime. We've grown into a family that I'll always remember. First, I wanna thank Jill for being a unique friend, I'll always remember you. Brendalyn keep your hands to yourself. "You Just Had To Be There!" Katherine keep it real. Jihad stay sweet, I'll see you at Montclair. To my best friend Jo-Jo, I wish you the best of luck.

I also want to thank my mother for being there for me and being an inspiration in my life. My cousin Alexa: thanx for being my best friend.

Lastly, I want to thank the entire senior class for making my high school years memorable. Good luck to everyone.



Elizabeth Cruz

La'Tesha Curry

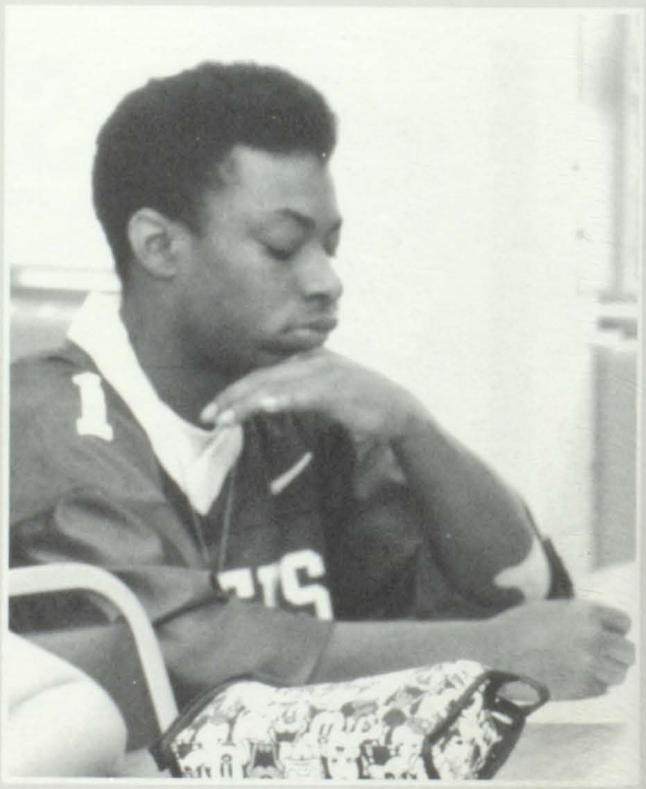


Finally I'm at the end of my 6 year journey. Thanx to all my real friends who kept it real. I give thanx to my top teachers Mr. Hankerson, Mr. Charles, & Ms. Rojy. I've learned alot in my years at UHS but wouldn't do it again. Special thanx to my class advisor for getting the job done. Peace out to Tiqua & Happy "Fat Incorporated". Shout out to The Lunch Crew, Pin L, Da Table, Ghetto Girlz, & Da Perverted Monks. Peace to my bus partner Tau-Tau & the two people who kept me chillin in my last year: Nikki & Sharmaine. Love always to my shorties, NiyAsha, Chyna, & "Shorty Wanna Be A Thug" Jean-Marie. Big shout out to my male best friend Dennis. Most of all I'll like to give thanx to my best friend TaKiyah at Da Side & my Boo Leonard for being there for me through thick & thin. To Johanna: stay real; Danille "Shout It Out", & Sharee, keep heading in da right direction. Peace to Deeka & J-Rock, its all the way from Carver. I'll never forget those bangin food fights but *You Just Had To Be There.* Special shout out to the c/o 97 for always causing chaos & at last peace 2 Jast. Now I'm out, peace Big Uni Babee.

I have been a student at University High School for the past four year. I have made a lot of friends here. I like coming to school, I look forward to having fun with my friends. Ms. Stephenson's class is probably the most fun. People doing things they shouldn't be, and Ms. Stephenson's gets on them. Ms. Green's class. The kids do anything in there. *You just had to be there.*

I give thanks to my football coaches at Weequahic. Ms. Stephenson, Mr. Hayes and Ms. Sanford. Special thanks to my mother and my father for making me come to school, and caring about me.

Shout outs to all my friends: Jamarr, Kevin, Richard, Rashid. No shout outs to the girls, they are Ph. D. Good luck to the Class of 1997, make that money cream, cause I will be making mine.

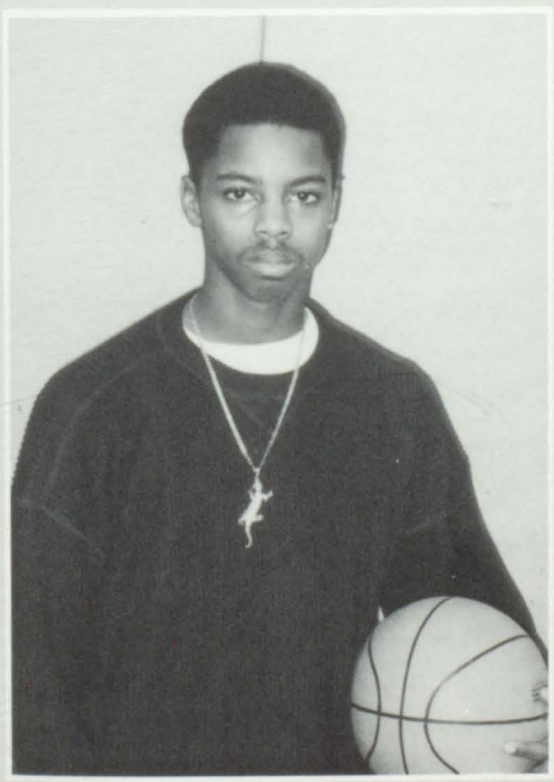


Bernard Davis

Naimah Days

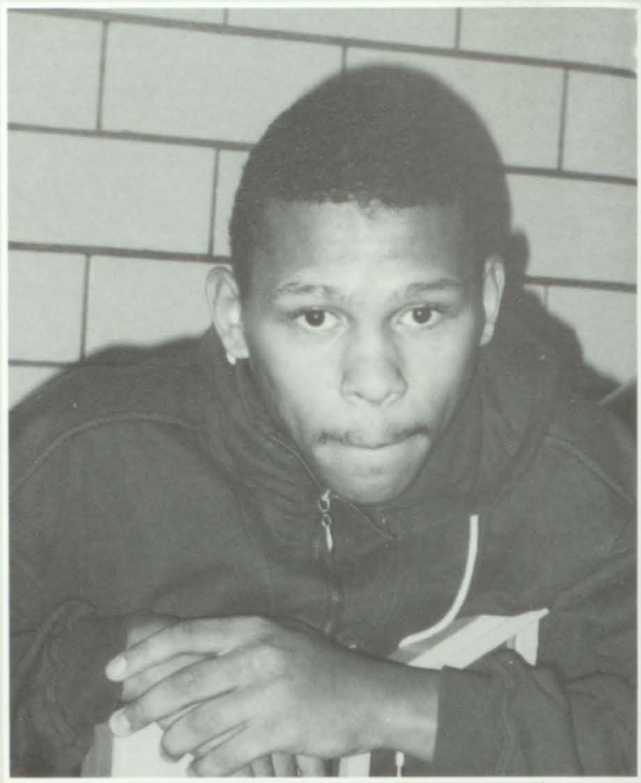


Faces, events, memories-These are just a few things I reflect upon when I hear "The Class Of 97". I have become a more mature person, from the first awkward steps I took entering University High six years ago to the proud stride of a graduating student. Those I have befriended have been extremely influential to me and I wish them all success and happiness in their futures. I thank my mother and father for supporting me from Day One-*I Love You*-and my many sisters and brothers. To my cousin, Tyhesh, keep ya head up, fam—I love you, girl. To the graduating class of 1997, "Good Luck In Your Future Endeavors." Some of you I will never forget, some of you I already have (Ha ha). I could write for hours reminiscing about the past, but it would not do any good. To know what our class experienced, "*You Just Had To Be There!*"



I'm finally moving on. I've been here for what it seems like 22 years. That 22 is really 6 but it seems like no difference. It's been fun while it lasted, but I'm ready to experience bigger and better things Much love to my math teacher that I had for 21 of those 22 years: "anything else is not math" (He knows who he is), Mr. Davis To the perverted Monks: The Verbal Assassin, Al "Pow Pow" Capone, Ref The Legend, Danny Dawn, Sool Wit The Crossover To Cruel, Mike Snitchyoano. Peace to the rest of crew who I forgot, much love. To my family thanks for being there; especially my Grandmother, and Aunt Angel. Mr. Freidman thanks for being there. The whole guidance office was extraordinary in the work they did for me and others. Peace to Shelton. I had a great time but you had to be there to see it. *You just had to be there!!*

Gerard Douglas



I enjoyed my years here. I had fun during those four year. I really enjoyed Mr. Hayes class during my freshman year. I thought it was fun in there and he helped me learn a lot. I guess *you really had to be there.*

I would like to give thanks to Ms. Stephenson, cause she helped me a lot, and Mr. Hayes, and Ms. Sanford. Special thanks to my mother and sister Sherry, for guiding me and keeping me out of trouble.

Shout outs to my friend Vincente and Jabazz, and my friend Maria. Good luck to the class of 1997.



You Just Had To Be There! All those food fights; class brawls; INKAR parties; Da Ghettos; Xinos; Lunch Crew; Da Table; PNL. It's finally over and I owe it all to everyone who made my life. Grandma and Daddy, I'd do it all again if you were here with me. Mommy, Jerome, Tonna, Meel, Man, Unc, and Granddad, thanx for putting up with all my mess. Thanx Lamar, for understanding me when no one else did. To my nieces and nephews for getting on my last nerves, especially Boo Boo. To Bridgette, Al-Nisa and Tanya, for being the big sisters I didn't have to ask for. To the rest of my family, I love y'all! You too Nisha,Meel and MukeThanx for all the good times. To all my friends, thanx for all the advice. Danille and Tasha, thanx for all those arguments, they made us closer. Chimere and Chanita, y'all left me lonely these last school years. Deek and Drea, money forever. To those who made my senior year hell, Ree Ree; Tau Tau; Tesha; Jo Jo; Sahkee; Meerah; Nelli; Nikki; Sha; Happy; and Haj Mika and Sool and Mr. Charles. To those that I didn't mention, *You Just Had To BeThere!*

Peace! '97,
Deeka

Siddeeqah Duncan

Sharmaine Elam



I have been here since the 7th grade and can only say that it has been an experience. I can start by saying that there have been some tough times and some fun times, but we still survived. To really understand what I mean, *You Just Had To Be...*

I would like to thank those who helped me along the way and who have seen me through all the tough times. To Mom, Dad, Penny, Ronnie, Terrence, Richie, and De'Jhan I would not have made it without you. To Da Kung Food Fighters, Da Lunch Crew, and all my other close friends, this has been a wonderful experience and I will never forget you. To my friends that did not finish the years here you were greatly missed. I would like to say to my best friends, Siddeequah and Tisha, you are like sisters to me and you were there no matter what and I could not have done it without you. I would also like to give special thanx to my boo Shah, even though you were not there for the whole experience you have made a difference.



As I come to the end of my high school career at University high school, and into the next chapter of my life, I have realized now that gaining knowledge is serious, and that life can or will eventually get harder from here.

To my mother, Aunt Mary and Aunt Ann, I thank you for providing your guidance in preparing me for the future, so that my life can be as carefree as possible.

To my father, I also thank you for being an influence in my life. If I would have lost you last year, I do not know what would have become of me.

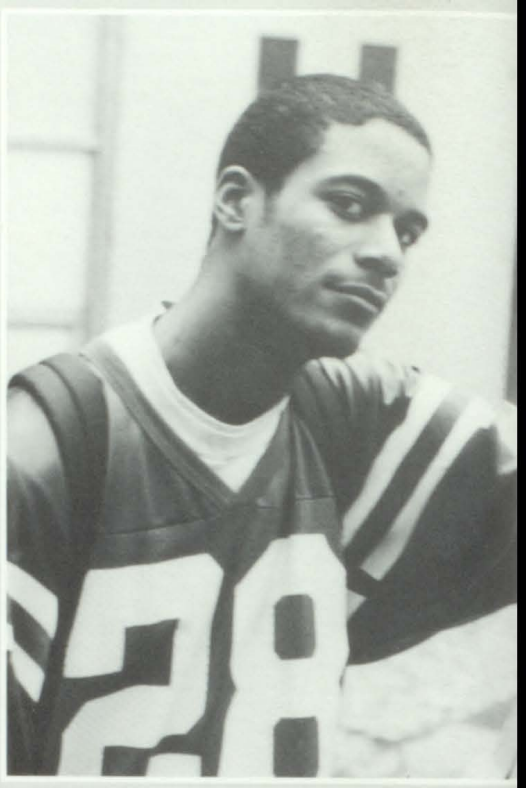
To Mr. Hankerson, I thank you for your long talks to me about getting my grades up... and I'll always remember that "anything else is not math!"

And finally to the class of 1997: Through the last four years we've all had our times, and we've all been through changes; some alike, some different, some good, some bad....*You Just Had To Be There!* But to all of you, some whom I may never see again, I wish you all the best of luck! I am out!

Jihad Elvings

Alton Faltz

"Only God can judge me now! Could been I was blind to the fact, stabbed in the back, some of my friends was a bunch of dirty rats!" Sike! The years were rough here for me, but I made it. I made enemies and I made friends. I had girls, and now I have none . Through the years I have become a stronger person because of the rough times I have been through. I thank my mother Bobby for pushing me when I didn't want to do anything and my dad Big Al for teaching me about life struggles. Big thanks to my sisters Tulisha, Tasha, Tonya, and Altonique for being there when I needed them! Peace to my Unicrew, Kas, Mike, Adries, E-Love, Vic, Haile, O.J. and Dennis. To my cousin Danny Dawn, keep doing your thing to the Early Mourn. To my brother Tyrone (Brooks) you still can't beat me! To all the girls I didn't get a chance to be with: Picture Me Rolling! To a teacher that treated me like a son, peace MR. Hankerson. To my one true love, Naimah keep smiling. Ref and Sool you know we been down since day one. Lastly All Eyes On Me!



Funny, how time flies! Seems only yesterday I was walking into an unfamiliar surrounding, with unfamiliar people. Today those people are very familiar, like family. Each one of you have made an impression, and I'll remember you as the individuals you are. To mommy: all this is for and because of you. Thanxs fo believing in me. Love ya. To Dula my love, my best friend, thanxs fo being there for me . Cheyenne, m partner, my "sister" thanxs for un derstanding when no one else had clue. To my sisters & brother thanxs for putting up with me. T my two favorite people Tauheeda and Tia, I'll never forget you. Goo Luck. Danille, Tasha, Keenah,& Deeka, Can't Knock the Hustl Tesha, Meerah, Johanna, Jill, Tiqua Chanita, & Sadira I'll miss you Ref, I'll never forget our phon convo's. Rasool, we'll always hav our fights. 1 Love. To everybod else: *You Just Had To Be There.*



Sharree Fields

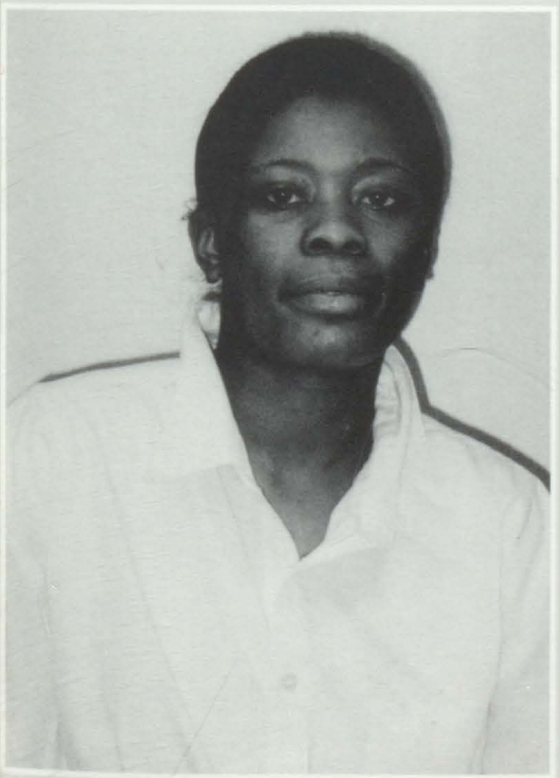
Jamarr Firnklea

I have been a student at University High School for the past two years. I have made some good friends, and I have had some good times. I will always remember the food fight at the end of the end of the year. I can't even begin to tell you about it, but man, *you just had to be there.*

I would like to thank my Mother and my Father for teaching me right from wrong, and being there for me when I needed them. I would also like to thank my teachers for helping me. Special thanks to my friends who always stand by me.

Mad shout outs to: Dwayne, Sam, Koyane, Kennisha, Comika, Shaddee, Naima and Fatima. Good luck to the class of 1997.





I've lived, learned, and prospered to all that I can be, but without my friends and family there would be no me. My Mommy, Dad, brothers, and sisters had my back through it all. They kept me strong in times of need and made sure I didn't fall. Illya-Ya, Kiyah, and Big Tesh, always looked out for Genique The Freak. Others who were chillin like a billion include Qiana, Lisha, Nillia, Tyisha B., Asia, Sadira, Sameerah, Deeka, Ree-Ree, and Jilyan.. The ones that stayed on top were Rasool, Jerome, Shareef, and D-Rock. There were the cliques that made it all happen: Ghettos, DaTable, Monks, Kung-Food-Fighters, and P in L were rappin and tappin. Can't forget my Niecy poo, I will always have love for you. My partner in sports Tyisha B. we'll always be at the head of the team. Teachers will look out for you: Hank, Hewitt, Barnes, James, and Ransome. People who tried to bring me down but when they look up I'll be wearing the crown. As if "I ain't mad at Ya" and I won't shed a tear, but *I guess You Just Had To Be There!*

Genique Flournoy

Karla Furr

Our history is recorded in these pages. That of a class who was sentenced to 4-6 years and has now broken out, *you just had to be there!* Remember 1995! But we won't be free until we lose our chains-so don't forget where you came from and don't forget PLP. To all those people who have made me who I am, and have progressed the fight for communism, I dedicate this page: my parents, who are constantly supportive and introduced me to the collective; my brothers, who show me much love when they teach me about boys and how to fight; mi amor con todo mi corazon Chris- "there will never come a day", my comrades M, T, H, F, S, Z, & N and the study group who make the revolution all the more possible; my fellow athlete & comedian Ty; Uni's youngest math teacher, the activist & my dance partner Maya; Nai-cheerleading & our trip to Paris, phat. Scarb & USII, the Spencer crew, volley & softball & baby Hew, those math teachers, my counselors & Ms. Beau. Viva la clase obrera!

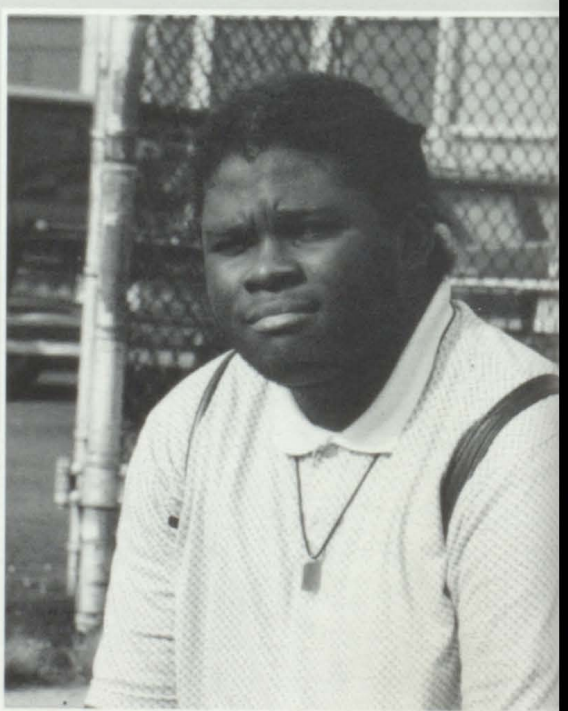


Jabez Gatson

I have been a student at University High School for the past four years. The most memorable thing about the school is the hard work and long hours, especially Ms. Stephenson's class, every class felt like five hours. But man *you just had to be there.* There was nothing funny about this school at all.

I would like to give thanks to my mother, who has always support me, and got me up in the morning. I thank my teachers, especially Mr. Hayes and Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Stephenson for the long hours, and Ms. Sanford for making it interesting.

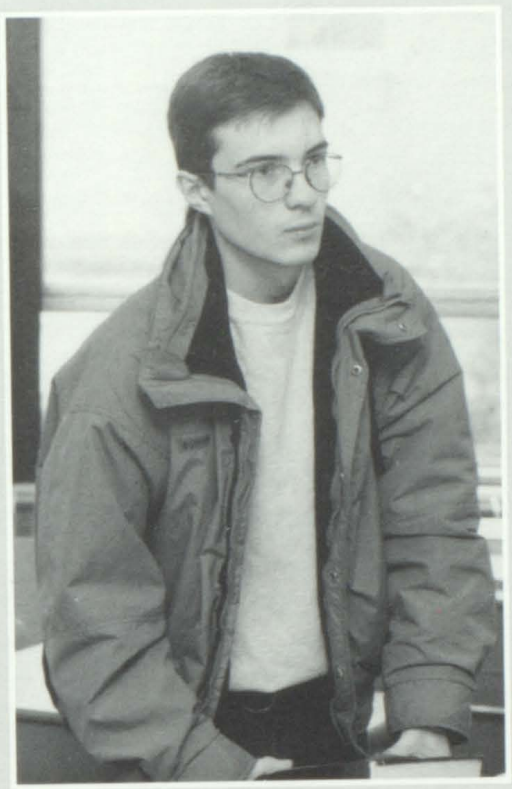
Shout outs to all my friends, I can't name them all. You know who you are.



Sergio Godinho

I thank the class of 97 for all the great memories!!! I know that I could have participated much more in school events and other such events, but I live across town. Despite other people making this trip, I really did not enjoy making this trip. That is my reason for dismal participation! Some people hate me for that or have feelings of indifference, but that is my reason. I love the whole class in a good way, and have no regrets of attending University High School .

I am going to miss everybody in the class: the basketball crew , the lunch crew w/Aquela, and everybody else in the school. If I put everybody's name I would not have room to write anything. Till the next time! If you want to talk come to Sears.



A special thanks to Jihad and Gamaliel for all your support through the years!

Also I can't forget to thank all the teachers with whom I argued and had help from through my difficult times: Hankerson, Heyl, Davis, Fahmy, Gilmore w/ my first C, Ferrera w/love, and Thomas!



It's about time! I must admit I'm going to miss it, but we must move on. Asia and Jill I give much thanx and luv for always being there for me. Taw-Taw you'll always be my T-Roni. Tesha and Tysha I'll always remember TCB. Shai and Nelly stay cool, Happy, keep it that way, and Ree-Ree stay real. Nikkia call me when your baby is ready for a god-mommy. Last but not least, I want to give a special shout-out to my best friends Elizabeth and Maria. You'll always be my sistas', thanx for everything.

To my family what can I say: You've never been there for me and I made it this far, so I'll be alright. I want to thank my Mom, Dad, and my sista', Yoly for being there for me and believing in me when no one else did. Moses, I thank you for always being my best friend. I Luv U Moe! Peace-a-roo to U!

Lastly, to the senior class I say Good-Bye! and Good-Luck! and to everyone else *"You Just Had To Be There"*! Peace out from your Butter-Peacan Rican!

Johanna Gonzalez

Shennell Hardy

Despite the bad times, my six years at UHS have been a great experience for me. I've learned, laughed, met new faces and did new things in the process. I've witnessed both failure and the thrill of victory. I could not have made it this far had it not been for the goodness of God. He gave me all my strength. Much love to mommy and daddy for giving me love no matter what. To Sharmaine thanx for your "wisdom" and listening to me. To The Kung Food Fighters and Lunch Crew thanx for the food fights. To Danille and Deeka Uno For Life. To Jill, Asia, and Nikkia thanx for listening to my stories. To Tanisha thanx for keeping me calm during volleyball season. Ms. Hewett love your advice. Nike don't forget to Jump On It. To all the boys in the class of ninety seven, I'll miss you all. Especially you Rasool. I know we've been through our ups an downs but you'll always have a special place in my heart. Most of all to the class of 1997 thanx for all the laughs and memories. I'll remember you all always. Many will not understand this because *"You Just Had To Be There"*.

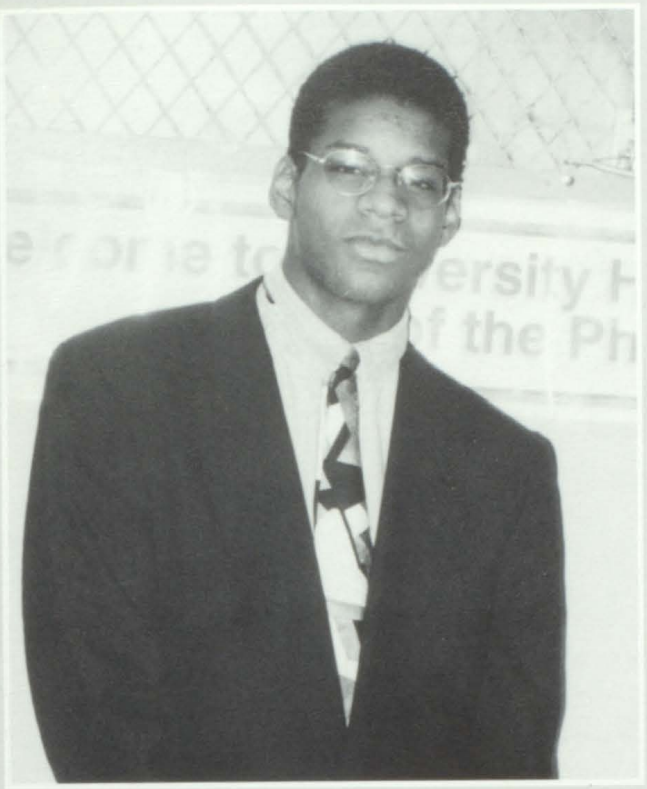




I have finally reached the end of my six year journey at University High School and I must say I will never turn back the hands of time but I would like to give thanks to all those who represented during these years. First I would like to thank God, for without him nothing is possible. My father Saladine (R.I.P.), I Love you Daddy, this one's for you. My Mom Dukes and Pops for being the greatest parents ever known. My bestest friend in the whole world, Tisha, for always being there for me, especially when I felt like I couldn't do it for myself. My best friend Sharmaine for being a close friend. My baby Izm for becoming my best friend and giving me advice. I love you so much, so "Get That to Me" because "We Need That for Somethin'". My senior buddy Hajar for brightening up my days. My girls Meerah Boo, Johanna, Tesha, and Munch, always keepin' it real. Da Table and The Lunch Crew (Those food fights was Tha Bomb). And a special congrats to the class of '97. And for all those not mentioned, I couldn't fit you in. Sike! *You Just Had To Be There!*

Siddeequah Harris

Todd Harris



Don't stop thinking about tomorrow. Don't stop, 'cause it'll soon be here. It'll be here better than before. Yesterday's gone, yesterday's gone." Since late June-Early July 1996, this has become my life. Don't stop thinking about tomorrow, because it will soon be here. Yesterday is gone, forever. I couldn't be happier. I enjoyed my time here, not as much as I'm enjoying it now, not because I'm graduating school, but rather because I've graduated out of my captivity and into freedom, forever. No one is putting me back in. I owe my emancipation to my best friends, Rojean and Lesley, who held in their hands the keys to my freedom, even though they didn't know it at the time.

Life isn't just a matter of education and cash flow — it's a matter of experience. College is for experience, to determine not only if you excel, but also how you handle your circumstances when you make mistakes. It's not that you made the mistakes, it's how you handle them. That's what counts. I learned that the hard way, and now that I'm free, I'm ready.

University students, past and present, thank you. Each of you, whether you knew it or not, had influential affects on me that will stay with me until my final breath. To the class of 1997, teachers and students — and this comes from the heart — I love you.

Todd Alexander Harris



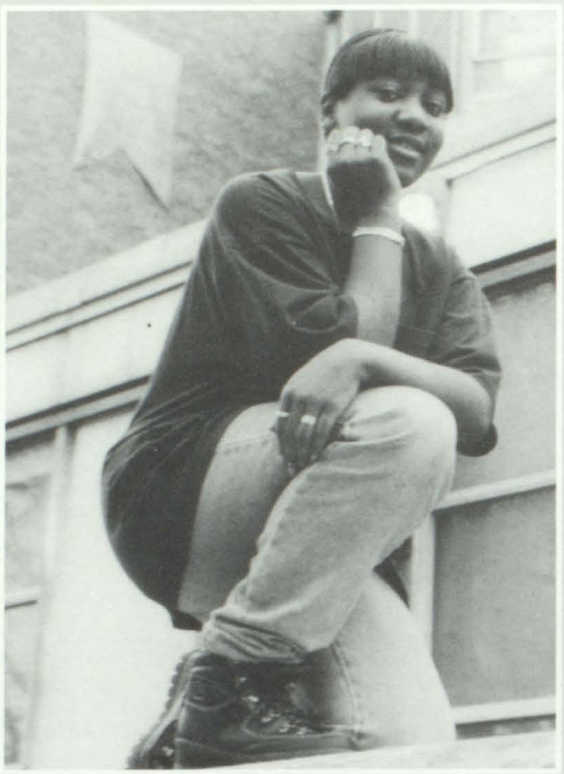
At last the time has come for me to say farewell and to move ahead. But I will never forget those who helped guide me through those four hard years or those who helped me have the best time within those four years. Thank God, my parents, and my grandparents for the constant love, support, encouragement, and motivation throughout my whole life. My Aunt Cassandra and Leceina for being there most when I need the both of you and always having encouraging words to say. To Kadeisha and Earl thank you for being there when I needed to have a good laugh. To Aneesha, Stacy, and Brendalyn we've been together from the beginning and it's been real. And for those who don't know about the "Octagon" *you just had to be there.* Qiana "MISSY"



Qiana Hart

Brendalyn Henry

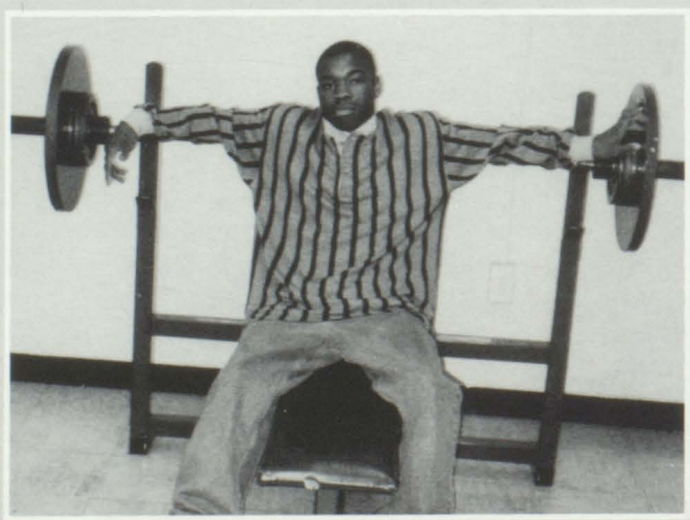
My six years at University High have been very long and hard, but I can finally say that "I made it". Through my years, I have learned the meaning of true friendship, and understanding. I have been blessed with good friends, memories, and the opportunity to meet some of the most down to earth people who I will miss dearly. I know it is for a reason that we each have to go our separate ways so that we can develop into the strong individuals that we are destined to be. The class of 97 has always been



leaders bringing life to the school but as they say all good things must come to an end, so shall the end of our reign at UHS. I would like to thank God, my parents, family, and the infamous Octagon . I would also like to thank my girls who have been there for me since day 1: Loretta, Rosebud, Lorraine, Rita, and Tamika. Thank you and much love. I also want to thank CL for being Someone Special. I have had some special times here that I will never forget. For those who weren't in physics, period 7, at least you heard about it, but *you just had to be there!* Westside!

After 6 years here, I feel like this graduation should have been 2 years ago. I'm the survivor of 6 Spanish teachers, a walkout, Ms. Caine, food fights, a dog running in the school, and Mr. Hankerson. First and formost I'd like to thank God. I must give special recognition to all the phat cats who always kept me laughing and all those people from Spencer who have known me 4 more than half of my life. If it wasn't for the monks, Chin (Latysha), and Ty, I think I would have dropped out after 9th grade. I have to thank my mother and my sister more than anyone because they put up with me when most people would not. I know I've grown a lot since 7th grade, and I am not talking about height. And for Doo, Vic, Reef, Ed, D, Sool, Kas, & Mike, I heard u was looking for candyman!

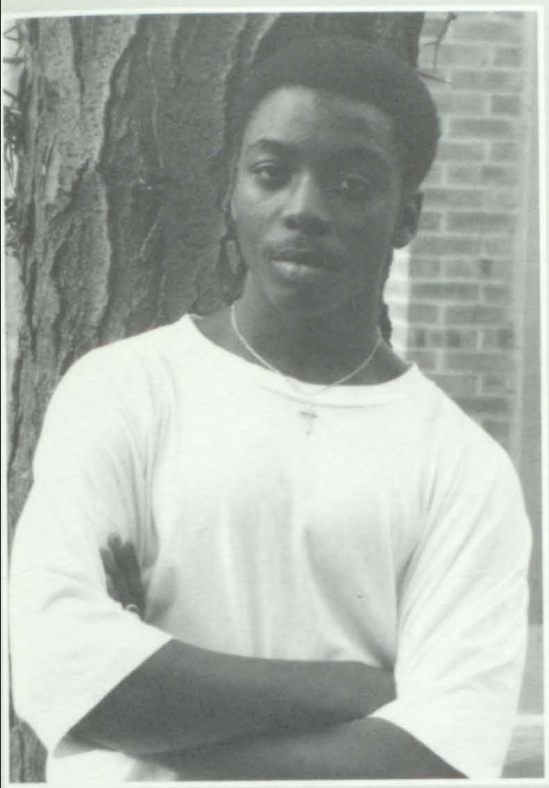




So when people ask me if I'm going to miss this school: the 70s day, the black & silver, 8th period Art class, the day Sahkeenah slid under the table, Ms. Newton, the Kwanzaa assembly, No! And if u don't understand any of this, *u just had to be there.*

Haile Henry

Ernest Hinton

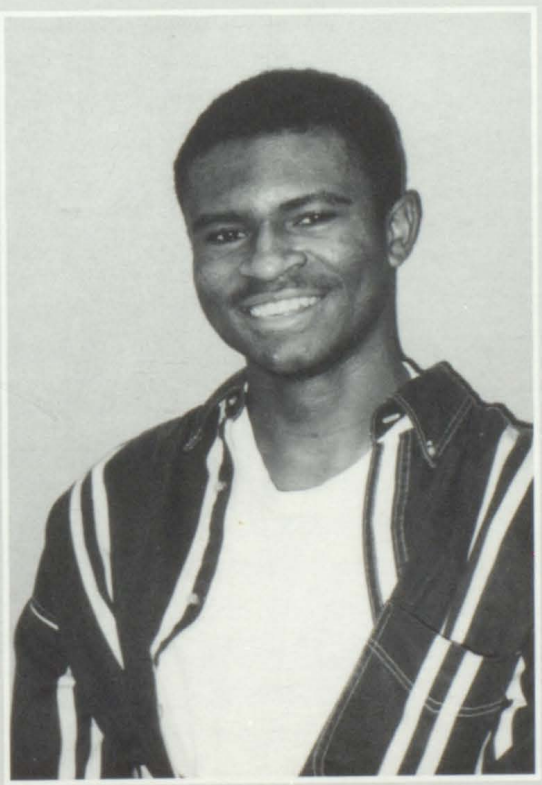


Well, what can I say, I finally made it. To all my true peoples that kept it real, I hope that we can stay in touch. When I first came here, I thought that it would be a breeze. But it was very difficult. Staying in this school took a lot of hard work and effort. Thanks to my mother, I got the support and that extra push that I needed to stay in this school. Even though I was new to this school, I still had a lot of female friends. I was cool with the fellas, but, I usually kept to myself. I remember when Dennis, Haile, Alton, Rasool and Vic asked me why I used to sit with the girls, and never sat with them. I guess I was just a ladies man. Now that I am a Senior, it seems as if I have waited so long for this moment and now have some restrictions about leaving. I guess *you just had to be there.* Last but not least, to the Class of '97', I'm going to miss everyone, and I say good-bye and good luck to you all.

Jerry Irving

1st off I'll like to thank God for giving me the ability to do all that I have done. For it is through Him we can do all things. I'll also like to thank my parents for loving me and having faith in me.

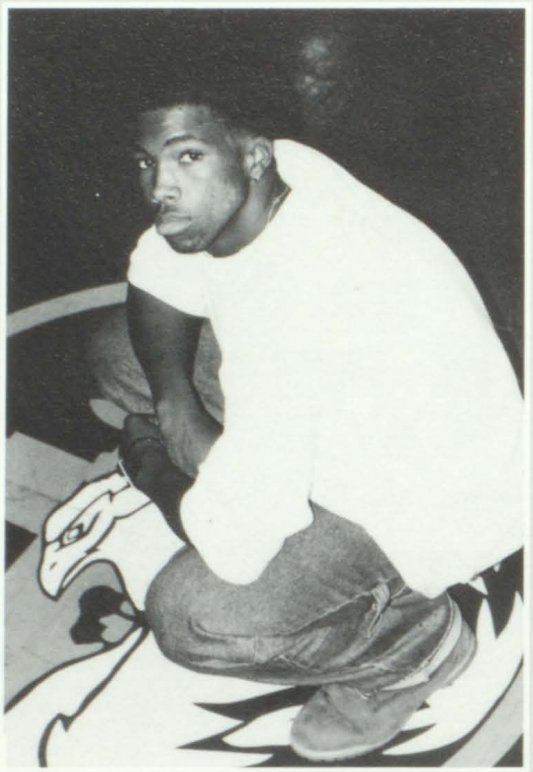
Life is full of changes and this is one change I unfortunately have to make. When I look back on my 6 yrs. @ U. H. S I can't help but think of those people that stood out. People like Tyisha and Adrise with their crazy personalities. Tisha Brown and Fatiyah (1st and 2nd wives) and Sha' Kira Bobbit my babies' mother. Who



can forget the time Mr. Ziering punched Victor or the time the baseball team left the coach in the park. It's just moments like these that make saying good bye so hard. To the class of "97" good luck, stay strong, God bless.

Michael Ivery

Six years in this school and you wonder why I'm stressin' getting vexed on that High School High tip. Now I am on my way to the next millenium, had a lot of great memories in this school, that's why you just had to be there. I say this because even though we were not allowed to do many things we did get the job done. I owe these accomplishments to my grandmother for being there every time I needed her, my mother putting me here, and my father for helping her put me here. I also would like to thank the rest of my family who supported me in my journey at University High School. I wanna give a shoutout to the six year and four year graduates, Xinos and the Kudos. The Ghettos, The Lunch Crew, The Table, and last but not least The Monks. I also would like to give a shoutout to Mr. Hankerson for the help when my parents were not there. Finally props to the cheese heads: Mike, Alton, and Sharef. And Victor thanx for the twelve years of brotherly love. I give a special shoutout to my cousin in the class of 2003.



Good Luck Everyone!



Let's see, I really don't know where to begin. Yeah, I know that I complained that I couldn't wait to leave this school, but it's been six long years with improvements from one year to the next. It's been six years of memories, trials, and laughter.

To my family, thanks for being there for me. I put you through hell, but you pulled through. Without them I am Nothing. To my best friends I hope that I've been the kind of friend that you have been to me, and don't worry all of the trials and tribulations that we have been through didn't affect much. I still love you anyway. Bye *Tiggy* (one day you'll find the right one to be with), *Kira* (you know that I am always there for you.), and *Baron* (It wasn't my fault I started hiking on you.). Even if I didn't mention you I love you anyway, but through it all *you just had to be there!*



Naikimah Jackson

Tia Jackson



Six years ago I walked through the front door of University and my life since then has never been the same. It was a long and hard struggle, but I am glad that I made it. For years it seemed as if this year would never come, now I wish it would never end. I would like to thank my entire extended family especially my mom I Love You without you none of these things would be possible. Thank You God for sparing my life and giving me the strength to go on. Shout-outs to the Xinos & Kudos, my lunch table friends, class of 97' and Qiana & Chynna. One Love forever to Tee, Nikki, Tara, Dre, and Kelli we will always be the sweet thangs no matter how far we are apart. To Sameerah, Alisha & my goddaughter Imani keep in touch. To Kenya lets never forget our rides on NJT. Sharree & Tau we have grown close, keep in touch. To my best friend Kelli I will never forget our sophomore and junior year *you just had to be there* I luv you lets never loose touch. To the class of 97 this is a sad ending to a wonderful beginning.



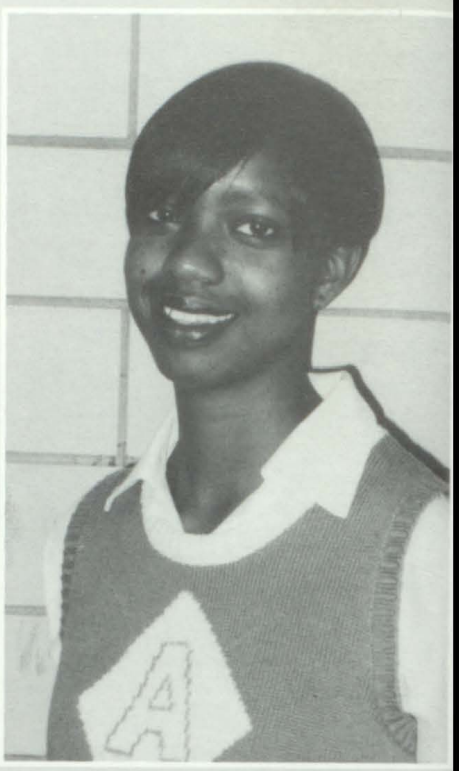
I guess I'll start by saying it's over. The time has come for us to part. I never thought that this would last forever. The good times, the laughs, the jokes, or just being together, like teasing Kima about the word "Resistance", laughing at Baron whenever he went to say something, and waiting for Kira to d something wrong because she laughed at everybody else. I know that some of these things are confusing but *"You had to be there."*

Thanks mom for all the encouragement, Kima, Kira, and Baron for making me look forward to coming to University. Finally Ms. Noble for making my mother much easier to handle. To The Class Of "97" congratulations and good luck!!!

Fatiyauh Jones

Sadira Jones

The time has finally come! Who would have ever expected it would come so soon! During my four years at University I have learned, accomplished, and gained so much. I learned that the road to success is not easy but all things are possible for those who believe. University High has brought me many pleasurable experiences. From the fashion shows 'til Biology Class (94-95). Thanx for all of them, it is true when they say " high school is the best time of your life." I foremost must say thank you God from whom all blessings flow, without You nothing could be possible. I have met five people who have always been there for me - Jill, Asia, Tiqua, Kelli, Nikkia -Thanks. Thanks Mommy and Daddy for always being there leading and guiding me to the best of your ability. It is because of you I am who I am today. To my lil sis Shana, don't get discouraged, make us proud! To Saniyyah, we've had our times but we'll always be best friends. To Natalie, we're friends for life. Finally, to the class of '97, I'll miss you all ! Remember all the good and bad times we shared. You truly *"Just Had To Be There !"*





Finally I've made it to the end of my childhood and the beginning of my adulthood. To my mommie, my queen, this all is for you. To my daddy thanx for the talks. To grandma, grandpa, Aunt LaVerne, Sheila, Kim, Jahid, Tia, Tahmal, Thelma, Toni, Myesha, and Glenn, thanx. To my sister Asia, thanks for always having my back, no matter what stupid thing I did. To Sadira, Kelli, and Jill thanks for showing me that I will Always have true friends. To those who talked about me, made up rumors & wanted to fight, I wish you the best - Ya Think! But to those who got to know me - much luv. To Ms. Rojy's 7th pd biology class, keep the jokes rollin *''You Just Had To Be There."* To my xinos sistas, luv ya. To Tia, T, Nikkia, Big Ree, Tau, Tysha, Tesha, and Qiana I'll Never 4-get ya. Kennard, thank you for always being there in my final year, Luv Ya. For all those I've missed, it was on purpose, I'm finally through with all this! So, if you've enjoyed me, my voice, my laugh, my sneeze, and smile, don't ever 4-get me. To the Class Of 1997, I'm out, see ya in 10 years.

Tiqua Knight

Alisha Lee

What can I say, I made it. It was a rough road to go down but with the love and support from my family and friends I was able to pursue graduation. Thanks mommy and daddy for giving me the strength to do what I feel is important to me. I love you both. Aunt Sandra thanks for the hospitality during the beginning of my senior year. To my best friend Shahida-Good Luck in the future and keep Corey happy. To my sister Kera, thank you for all those snacks and letters of encouragement.



Keep your head in the right direction and everything good will come your way. Remember I'm always here for you and I love you. To the class of '97, thanks for making these past years memorable. To my God parents thanks for everything. To Michael, thank you for giving me a very special gift-Imani-Nicole and being my best friend. You're always there when I need you, I appreciate everything you've done for me, I love you. With all my heart Imani, I love you. Special shout out to Kathie. Grandma I love ya R.I.P.

I will always remember how we used to pick with each other. This would happen in every class, but specifically in Ms. Muhammad's class. Sam picked on everybody he saw, he used to make everybody laugh. They used to pick at Missy. Richard, A.K.A. Biggy Small used to look at David and burst out laughing. I remember when the class heard my demo tape. There was one song there titled "Aint No N...Nonstop" People were singing it all the time, it made me mad. I will miss the good times, y'all, and *I guess you just had to be there.*

First of all I want to thank the Lord for making everything possible and for me being where I am standing. I would like to thank my Mother for being there through the good times and the bad times. Thanks also to my step father for always taking care of me through the good times and the bad times, when he really didn't have to,



but he did anyway. Much Love. I would like to thank Mr. Hayes for being a good teacher, even though he got on my nerves sometimes. He let me know never to give up in what you believe in. I would like to thank Ms. Muhammad, the best teacher a student can ever have. She always kept me smiling, sometimes crying inside. Thanks also to Ms. Stephenson for being a nice and helpful teacher, spending time with me, and letting me know when I was doing something wrong. Thanks also to Ms. Sandford, the funniest teacher someone could have, joking in class with you, letting you know what you had to do in class, letting you know when you are wrong or right, and not letting go with my head hanging down. Much Love.

Mad shout-outs to my people: Missy, my best friend Kennisha, Sam, Richard, Kevin, Jamarr, David, Luis, Dwayne, Joy and Maria. Much Love.

Camika Lewis

Dennis Lewis



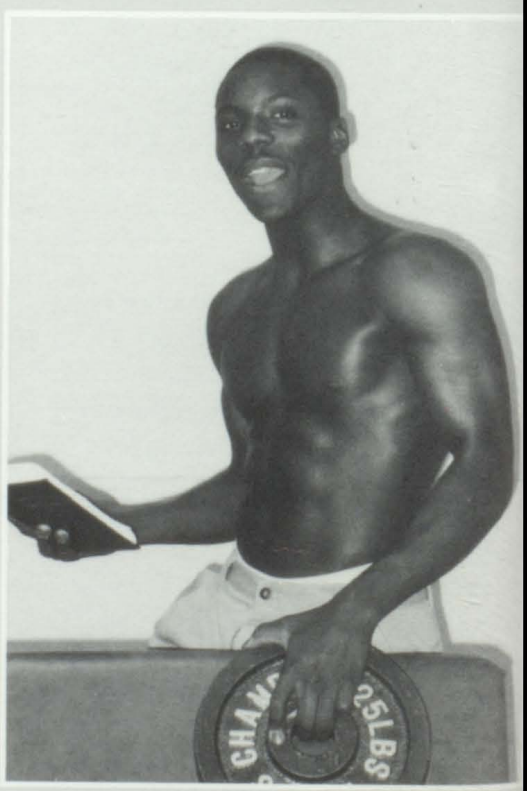
Yo! First of all I have to give praise to Jehovah God for keeping me alive and allowing me to enjoy the four years I have spent here at University. Next I have to give thanks to my grandmother for taking care of me and pushing, inspiring and constantly staying on my back.(I Love You Ma). Also to my mother for being there for me, and my favorite aunts Sherylle and Marie for always caring. Thank You. Yo! To my forever brother Adries(Tank) for being the best friend a brother could have. To my sister Tyisha since 3rd grade for being a good friend (we all go back to Madison, I'll never forget you) Also to Tesha Curry: thanks for being a goo friend (you know) Shout Outs Perverted Monks stay nasty. M boys Dibease, Hollywood, Silk Slim, Vic Escabar, Reef, Ed, Hail To all my women Mommy Sameerah, Katherine, Alish Danille, my twin Jen, Chanel Genique, Brenda, Sharee, Naima Asia (goddess of yum) and all th other women I'm fly with in UHS I love the hell outa yall. To m boys keep it Dirty. To all my girl yall all beautiful, take care.

D-ROCK

AKA

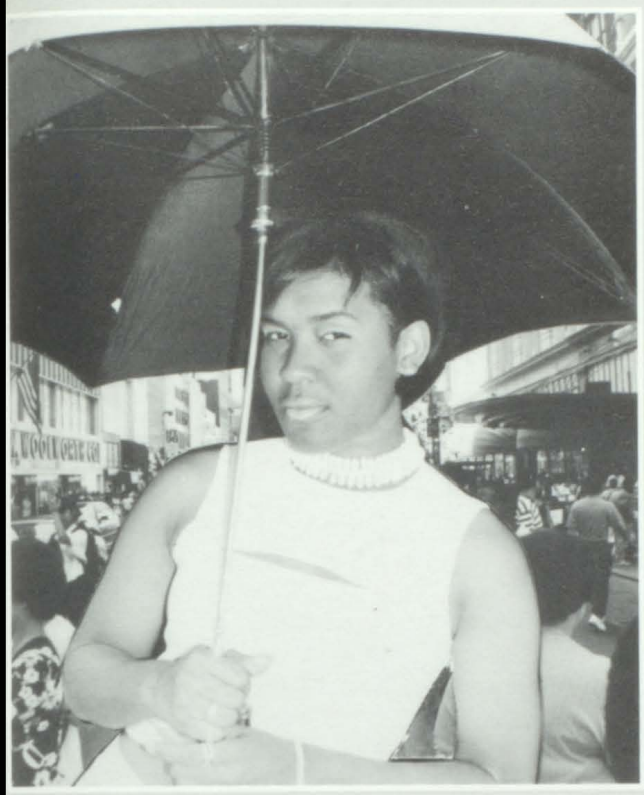
Ol'Dirty Den

1Ti. 4:8 "Bodily training is beneficial for a little, but Godly devotion is beneficial for all things as it holds promise of the life now and that which is to come" If you look at the picture of my body, it may look nice but one day I'm going to be getting old and it won't look so nice It won't last forever. But if I have godly devotion it promises me life now & to come. So it will be restored. To the c/97 who are going off to college & going to make big success in life remember that all things in life are vanity if you don't worship the "true" God. Goals & success is all good with men but Godly devotion assures you life now & to come at the end. So please take heed. I want to shout out to c/97. Special shout outs go to Ugo my boy since 7th grade. To Dennis my boy since we were knee high to a duck, we are blood. To the sweet heart of my life "Tysha" the lady I love with all my heart. We will be best friends for life, she will soon be my wife. Thanks dad & mom for raising me right & Mr. P & Hass for being and teaching right, and setting a good example. Big &little sis: luv y'all. Thanks Darren for helping. Love JAH all my life.



Adries Lockhart

Asia McMillan



When I came I learned, grew, realized, laughed, cried, tried, sought, thought, rose, and aimed. But the most important thing was that I gained friends, an education, a sense of who I am memories, morals, values, independence, and pride.

To MaMa and Daddie, thanx for giving me the guidance and support and everything else that I needed to make it this far and to move on and become even more. I love you.

To Sadira, Jilyan & Tiqua , it hasn't been long but the bond is so strong that it can't be broken, thanx for letting me be me. In my heart you will always dwell. Much love to Kelli, Nikkia, NellyNel, and my Butter Pecan Rican, thanx for being such good friends remember me always.

To the original crew, Sahkeenah , Tysha, Tesha, Tasha, Jennifer ,the love is there regardless to circumstance. Much love to my Spencer family,we go way back. To anyone I missed, I still love you

These were the best days of my life, I can't even summarize it, *I guess you just had to be there.*

Melinda Murphy

I have attended UHS for 6 years and I finally made it. A half page doesn't describe nearly as much of what I have been through and the family I found.. Even though there may have been some brawls between the classmates, I couldn't pick a better class to graduate with because we grew up together and we will always be the best graduating class at UHS. I thank the teachers and staff who put their foot on my back and pushed me to get where I am today. I'd like to thank my best friends Tina and Keita, known as Snatch and Deceit for their love and support, and how they stood by me through rough times. Shout outs to CosZ, Slick, Qua and the rest of the Starr Family, Naste Niggets, Brick Mob, Outsidaz, Joy, and the graduating class of 97, keep your head up and strive to survive. Ma I love you and thank you for the work you put in as you shaped me into a well-rounded girl, and I couldn't choose a better person to be raised by. Lastly, I like to thank God for allowing me to make it this far because without him it would not have been possible.

Peace



Nikkia Neal

Its finally here; the big good bye and though I enjoyed it, I'm glad its over. First I want to thank my lord and saviour, Jesus Christ for being that guiding force, pulling me through it all. Mommy, Daddy-Ran, Nanna, Popie, Auntie and Uncle Marc thanks for all the lectures and talks; I was listening every time and every word encouraged me. My girls T, Tia, Kell and Tara we'll be sistas for life. To all my Xino sistas and Kudo brodas; ooh ooh ah and especially my lil sista Genique. Johanna my Mickey pal be ready when I call. Jast thanks for being good friends. I'll always love ya. Especially



Asia , Tiqua and momma Sadira for all the advice. Kenya I will always remember those long walks home; You Just Had To Be There! Much love to my best friend Kini. I just can't express the love I have fo ya. To my favorite teacher Mrs. Boxley, thanks for everything. To my family and others, I didn't forget ya, y'all just chillin in da cut.

Good Luck c/o 97, Its Been Real

Last but not least, Aunt Tricia this one is for you.



Around 13, I envisioned this magnificent reverie. I opened a door with the inscription "UHS"; my step was blinded by ecstasy, sadness, retribution, and a rebirth. As I resurfaced, I was not the same person who began this weighty excursion: I am the product! From the inchoate stages of my life in Nigeria, my parents, brothers, and sister have taught me that love, industriousness, and discipline will pay dividends in the future: thanx for your love and support. My beliefs grow stronger. Thank You! Mrs. Gironda and Mr. Davis have been my building blocks from adolescence to young adulthood; I'll always remember you. The erudite instructors of UHS were wonderful. Todd: you're a true friend. Adries: appreciate your help and friendship (like your style). O.J.: it's been 13yrs. Latysha ("karate choppin' brothas into submission") Brown, and Dennis: see you in the future; thanx for your friendship and help. Jason, Maruti, Barbie, Maya, Rahkee, PLP, G.S.E., CO '97, and UHS: U R the greatest innovators, iconoclasts, competitors, and thinkers. See you at the crossroads.



Ugo Nwachukwu

Sharell Parker



I can't believe I'm leav ng University! I can re member coming here as a young seventh grader getting adjusted to a high school environment. I wouldn't have made it this far without the support from my family and friends. First I would like to thank God for his many blessings. To my mom and dad: you are my inspiration and my guiding light. Words can't express how much I love and appreciate you both in my life. To my little brotha' Brian: thanx for all the fun memories. I'll miss u brat! My auntie Lisa; I'll miss you and the late night talks we had. I love you always! My grandma Margaret; thanx for your love and support. To 'Dale, my sweetheart, let's stay together. both near or far. Special thanx to Mr. Davis for teaching me the importance of self-confidence and to succeed in whatever I do, and to work to the best of my ability. Last but not least, to the entire class of '97: It's been a long journey, but we finally made it. Let's remember the good and bad times we had. Continue to follow your dreams and goals in life, and continue to strive for excellence. I'll miss y'all. See ya in ten years!

Peace! I'm Out!

Eternity has finally come to an end. We must now go our separate ways & become individuals, although University family values are installed in us, we must do our own thing. As long as you are doing your thing & using it to prosper, I ain't gone never be mad at cha.

To my brother, Lydelle, you'll get your chance to shine & even before you do, I'll be right with cha. Qiana, I know its a struggle, but when you ever need a friend



you'll know where I will be. Ref, you're my boy & for as long as the struggle is on, I'll be struggin' with ya. Doody, get that cream boy. Shout-outs to all the crews, J.A.S.T, lunch crew, P in L, perverted monks. And to Tanisha you're one in a million, stay sweet, & just like you were always there for me, I'll always be there for you. To any body I missed, it doesn't mean I'm mad at cha, there wasn't enough space. All of the memories we have had here will leave with us, & to realize how many good & bad times we had, *You Just Had To Be There!*

Jerome Payne

Syreeta Pittman

Remembrances of the Heart

I take with me my memories-
of laughter shared with friends
and me;
of best friends breaking all apart;
of long romances of the heart;
of arguments that never last;
of all members of the Senior Class.
Much love to she whose love never ends,
thank you Tasha for being my best
friend.
Forget-me-nots to the octagon crew-
Neesha, Quela, and Bren-Bren too.
And Nellie, Neicy, Stace and Q,
There will never be another crew as fun
as you!
To my boyfriend Droop, one love to you
too.
No matter what happens you'll always be
my Boo.



To the guidance crew whom I've grown
love,
God must have sent you all from above.
To Mr. Daniels my very close friend,
Thank you for being there with me till th
end.
Mrs. Culver , even though you are gone,
your place in my heart still holds strong.
Through good times and bad, happy or
sad,
these are the friends that I'm happy to
have had.
All honors to God for making me strong,
and giving me friends that I can lean on.
To all those people who say they don't
care,
it doesn't matter, *you just had to be there.*

My years here were filled with memorable moments. I'll never forget: when all sixty of us just walked out.. me and Lik almost got pulled over for.. the fake cops harrassed me and Haile.. me and Tau went to cellar tattoo place and almost got.. me Ree and Tia tried to start that fake fashion show.. NaNa fashioned not only her clothes in the show.. we all practiced for jj performance at Adries' house and the show was.. that crazy lady assaulted her dancers in our stage performance.. me and tyi cried at the rappin scarb "finga poppin".. only deek got wet up on the bridge.. all the gals wore wigs and dashikis for motown.. maya and biah cried love don't live here.. we walked down the aisle with clenched fists.. we all used to run back to the village.. me jil and k. made those groovy greetings.. me and tyi almost got jumped (ok) by those under.. baron didn't see or hear everything.. we 'karl'ed the 'furr' department.. ah see ya make millions, Asia.. we watched assemblies in the balcony.. me tia, kika, kelli, we all were harassed at the bus stop.. they really suspended all of us..



Kenya Pope

Kasiem Randall

Before I begin giving shouts to all the crews I've got to thank my mother for helping and believing in me through the years. Now take a ride with me, my years here in "The U" have been full of ups and downs. Every year it seemed a new punks jumped out of the closet to show their true yellow backbone, the cowards. It seemed like every year some teachers took it upon themselves to exploit my laziness and try to fail me, but they can't keep a good monk down. Even though there were a lot of bad times, they can never come close to the

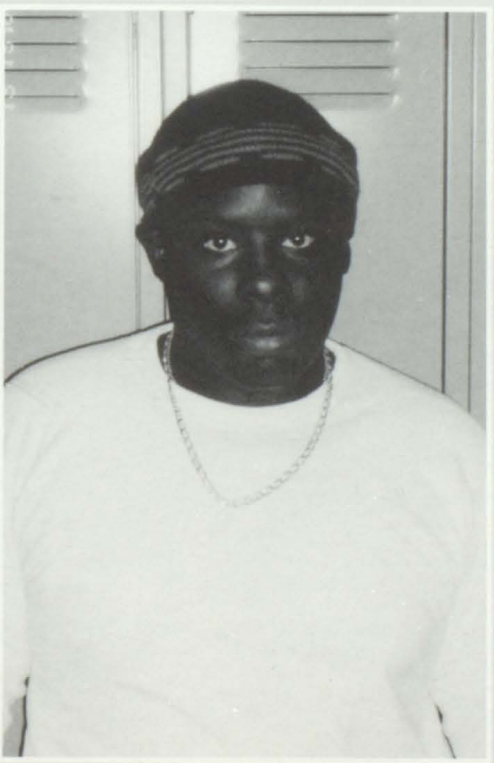


good times. Remember when a certain clique threw a "pad" on my lunch tray sophomore year, I guess, " You Just Had to Be there ". Much respect to Mr. Hankerson, the Mathematical Monk, I have to give respects to Ms. Gilmore who wouldn't hesitate to hook off on me. Now let me give mad shouts to my Monks: Dooty, Sool, Big D, Big Reef, Vic, and Mike. Shouts to Hailey, Ed, and anybody that I might have missed. Mad love to my heart " B ". Mad shouts to most of the ladies, I'll get at you. " 97 " 4 life.

" You Just Had to Be There "

I have been a student at University High School for the past four years. I have had some good times and some bad. I never will forget the time we were sitting at the lunch table. I threw some milk at Shalik, and he threw milk at me. We laughed so hard, man, *you just had to have been there.*

The first one to thank is the Lord, for with His help everything is possible. My Mom deserves my thanks, because she has pushed me to do things that I should do, but didn't always want to do. She has always been there for me when I needed



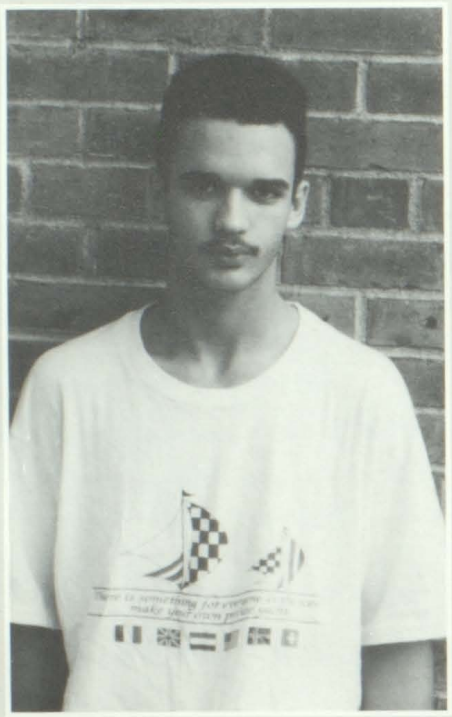
her. I would like to thank my teachers, Mr. Hayes, Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Stephenson, and Ms. Sanford for teaching me things I did not know when I first came to this school.

Shout outs to my boys Jamarr, Sam, Bernard, Jamie, Dwayne, and Shadi. Tracy, Mad Shout outs to the girlz: Comika, Maria, Mitzi, Kennisha, Toya, and Samira.



Richard Ricks

Luis Octavio Rivera



After transferring from East Side, in the middle of the school year, I very quickly made friends. By sophomore year, I knew everyone in the school. I have been very involved with the school's activities. My most memorable experiences were with the stage crew, SGO representative, Academic Decathlon, and Lincoln Douglas Debate. I played sports including track and baseball. Music is one of my loves, having played trombone and learning how to read notes. It's been a great experience, and starting to be challenging by teachers, but *you just had to be there. . .*

I thank Ms. Sanford, Senora Rivera-Cruz and Ms. Jones, who were a great influence for me. I also thank Mrs. Muhammad, Mr. Davis, Mr. Hayes, Mr. Ransome, Ms. Stephenson, Ms. Hewett and Mrs. Alterie. My mother deserve my thanks and love for raising me and supporting me and step-father for raisning me.

Shout out to Elizabeth, Sergio, Jihad, Sheree, Kasiem, Aisha, Johanna, Arlene, Alli, Brendalyn, Brandin, Armando, Aisha, Camika, Evelyn, Jasmine, Maria, Yahyra, Xiomara, Jennifer, Richard. To the one I love Yanira Cruz: In two more years you'll be graduating. Thank you for being there for me, and helping me out through some problems. I love you and wish you luck.

Anise Robinson

My four years at University High proved to be all that I anticipated it to be when I was in elementary school. Fun and beneficial. I narrowed down my career choices and decided to try film production. In these four years I made seven true friends and kept one very special friend. You know who you are. I also want to give a shout to another friend. "One time, jump on it". Shouts go out to all of the teachers who helped me to grow. Shouts go out to my brother Darien in Watertown, my cousin Shawn, my best bud, my cousin who is also graduating this year, Vagee, A.K.A. Damien, my cousin Erika who is growing up so fast, my cousin Hope



who is the silliest girl that I will ever meet, my cousin Cilicia who is already grown. Shouts to all of my aunts and uncles, grandmothers and grandfathers and the rest of my family. My encouragement and support comes from the Robinson and Chandler families. Two of the supporters didn't have a chance to see me graduate, Cornell Robinson and Delilah Chandler. RIP. Two other supporters are my mom and dad, Anthony and Deborah Robinson. I am dedicating all of my accomplishments to these four people and the rest of my family.

Peace, Neicy c/o 97

Diana Robinson

When I 1st entered University High School, I never thought I would reach the point of being a senior. Now that I am here I wish I could do it all over again. During my 4 years here, I've come across a lot of different people. Some who will remain friends for life & others who were just there. I've shared good & bad times here, but I wouldn't change any of it for the world. First of all I want to thank God for bringing me this far. It was hard getting here but I made it. Thanx Mommy for sticking by me no matter what. We had our times but U never walked out on me. To my boy, Jerome U are like the brother I never had. Hajar, thanx for pushing me when I was ready to give up, I luv ya. To Jast, Sweet Thangs, Lunch Crew, & Da Table, Y'all was my peoples and I'm gonna miss your tricks. To my Chyna Doll, I luv you Boo & everything I accomplish is all for U. To Kamal "I Aint Mad At Cha" I still got mad luv for U kid. To my peeps Yaya & Kiyah I miss y'all. To all those people who said I wouldn't make it Haha. It's been real & I wish the C/O 97 the best of luck. *You just had 2 be there.*



Peace Out,

"Munchkin"



Although I have been here for only four years it seems like a life time. I've seen many of my friends go but I ain't mad at them. Speical shout out to Lucinda. Thanks to my parents Tom & Bernice, my siblings Bow, Tommy, Brittany, my grandmother Ruth, my great-grandmother Mammie and my cousin Kea who stayed by me my whole life. To my friends who stayed by me thanks. To Shaheerah & Mu-Mu thanks for becoming two of my closest friends. Sharree you're one of the best and Tiqua I'll never forget World History. To JAST much love although you never squared the T. To Gennifer I'll never forget you. To those who were there let's never forget Sadira's 15th birthday. *You Just Had To Be There.* To Tesha and all my bus pals: what can I say, we will always have those bus rides. To my party pals Nikkia & Tia let's never forget to get on the donkey. To the OG Gettos mad love. Last but not least, Danille: Senior year was tha Bomb. Oh Jo stay sweet. And to the c/o 97 Forget me not. Oh Ya Ca Get a quater.

Tanheedah Robinson

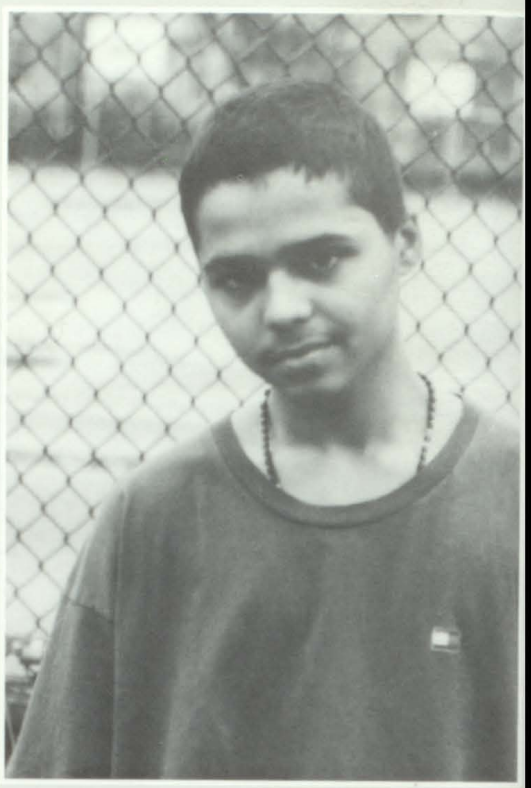
Carlos Rodriquez



There were many times during my four years here at UHS that I felt like quitting, but there was always someone there to pick me up, someone to give me some kind of inspiration to remain. Someone helping me to see the potential in me. Someone to give me the confidence to accomplish everything I thought I couldn't. Thank you God for being in my life, thanks to my parents and family for putting up with my mistakes and faults. To the teachers who never let me quit, thanks. Thanks to all the old friends I always had in my life, and to all the new friends I made in the four years in high school.

I'm glad I made the decision to come to University High even though I came here over a month late in my freshman year. All the experiences I had here may not have happened had I not made that decision. You're all unique. I never met people like you all. Peace to all. Vaya con Dios.

Carlos Javier Rodriguez



During my four years at University High it seemed I was never going to graduate, especially having a math teacher like Hankerson. Thank God I'm out of that. However, I will really miss some of the teachers and friends that I met at University High. Believed or not, during my summer vacations there were times when I wanted to return to school just see my University High classmates. I might have not had a close relationship with most of them, but I know at least once during my four years at University I had a chat, a project or basketball game with them. Although I wasn't so active during the years at University, but the few times that I was involve or the few times that I helped, I always enjoyed myself, especially, when I had to leave the class. An overall, I give thanks to my teachers and especially to the class of '97 for making my four years in University special.



Gamaliel Rodriguez

Jennifer Rooks

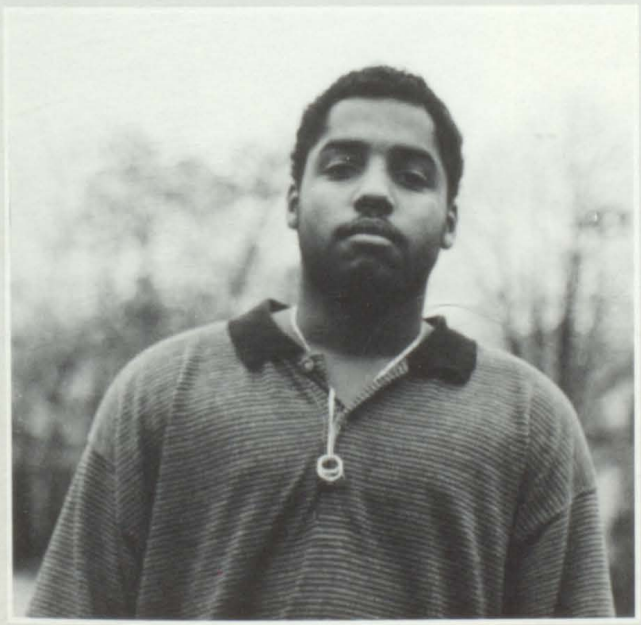


I would waste my time and this paper trying to explain my six years at big Uni, but why...***You Just Had To Be There!***

Much love to everybody even if I don't mention you by name. To da kung food fighters and the lunch crew: don't stop the tradition; food fights at the ten year reunion! To Sahkeenah, Danille, Sharree, and Tasha let's not forget fantasy. Special thanks to Ms. Ransome for just "being there". Thanks to Mr. Thomas for keeping me here. To the softball team: "all we got is U.S.T."

Much love to Mike for giving me the best and worst of everything, I love you too much and I'll never forget you. To Beulah, although I don't say enough, I love you Mom! To MHC III: The best is yet to come. And to my girl Curry, I'll never forget you!





During the past four years I made a lot of friends, I learned some new things, and I had a lot of fun. My most memorable time was when Louis and I went to class, with a late pass. But instead of going directly to class, we toured the building. A security guard saw us, but we ran away. He chased us up and down the stairs. I guess *you just had to be there.*

I would like to thank my Mom for telling me to do good in school, and stay out of trouble. I thank her for her support and love. My aunt has encouraged me to do well in school, and not get in trouble. Special thanks to several of my teachers. They are: Ms. Sanford, Mr. Hayes, and Ms. Stephenson.

Shout-outs to my friends: Louis, Maria, Comika, Jabazz, Bernard, Raymond and Dwayne. Special Shout out to Lacy. Good luck to the Class of 1997, and all the classes coming up.

Vincente Rosa

Taeyma Sapp

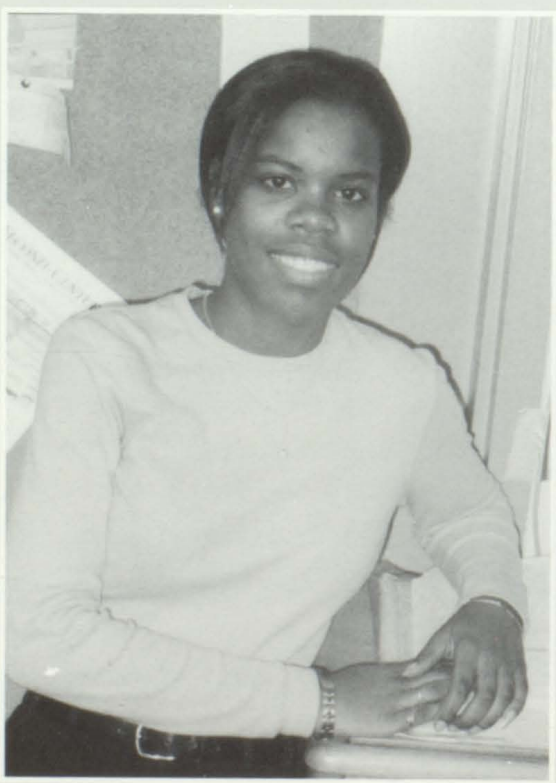
Right now, I am writing this half-page in November, and I am so ready to leave this school that I've spent six years at. But I know that when June comes, I will be sad to go. I have matured (somewhat) at University High. I have experienced both joy and sadness in this small environment. Special appreciation goes out to PLP and everyone in the study groups who busted through University in '94. Much respect and love also goes out to the '97 senior class, who represent all the beautiful elements. You just had to be there to know how much love there is in this class. I wish all of you peace and love after you leave University. I wish luck to all the other classes. Hopefully, you will make it to senior year. Don't get stressed out. And don't believe that University is as corny as it seems. Respect goes out to the few cool teachers in University- Mr. Davis, Mr. Thomas, and Mrs. Gironda. Oh, I almost forgot- I Love You Mommy! Good bye to the Black & Silver.

Peace, Love, and Fried Chicken Grease



I can't believe my six years at University is coming to an end. As a seventh grader coming to University by myself, I was isolated from the rest of the students who came from the other schools in groups. However, as time progressed, I was embraced by a wonderful class, and given the nickname Scarby, because Scarborough took too long to pronounce.

There were many memorable days at University and perhaps the most memorable days occurred during my six years of math. From Mr. Hankerson to Mr. Davis, and of course Mr. Fahmy in between, the advanced Math students were always up to no good. Tyisha you were the worst. You always made me laugh, sometimes even at myself. I will always remember your silliness and friendliness throughout the years. To my girl Kenny-Ken you have definitely helped me a lot in a variety of ways, not only in math. With lots of love and hot fries. To Haile, a good person to talk to when you're stressed. Good Luck always!! Remember, you can't take notes without the three P's; pen, pencil, and paper. Much love to Naimah, Shakeerah, and Brown, a few good friends. To La La, you still owe me a quarter. (smile).



Thanks to my aunt Shirley Ann and sister Tyisha for being there for me throughout the years. To the entire teaching staff at UHS, I thank you also. I have definitely learned a lot. And for all you who don't know, *You Just Had To Be There!*

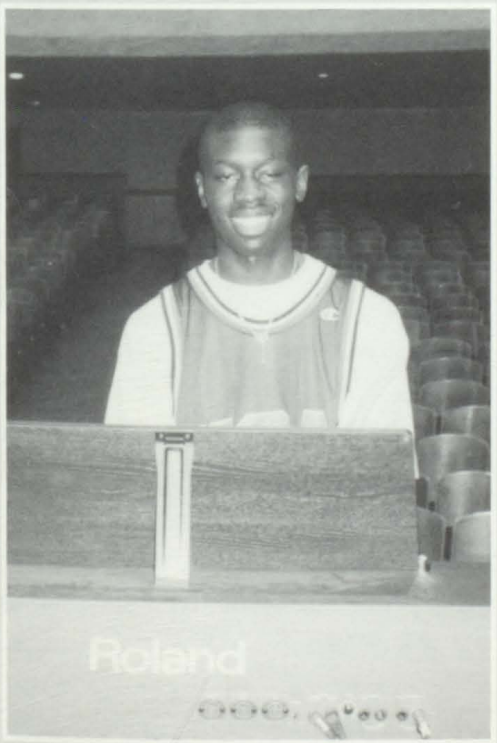
Shakera Scarborough

Kenneshia Simmons

First given honor to god who is the head of my life. I would like thank my mom, dad and my church family for their encouragement, telling me to keep my head up. To my teachers Ms. Stephenson, Ms.Muhammad, Ms.Sandford and Mr.Hayes. For making my last two years interesting and more challenging. And a special thanks to Ms. James and Ms. Hewett for looking out for



me and keeping me in check. And to my friends for making these school years go fast. And to Latoya, Kitab, Mitzi, Bernard, Camika and Shakira for being there when I needed someone to talk to. "Yo" to the class of "97 live your life to the fullest, don't let any body hold you back. And to all of the heads who said "I couldn't do it "Think again". And I apologize to Fatiyauh for all the stress I put her through in our junior year.



What to say? What to say? These six years have gone by so fast, not that I'm complaining. I've learned a lot while at U.H.S. I've met a lot of new people, some I wish I could forget. But overall, it's been a pretty good stay here. Although I will miss the food fights, Junior/Senior basketball games, and the wild things us Seniors did, *you just had to be there*, but now it is time to move on.

Special thanx goes out to Mr. Hankerson for putting up with me even when he and I knew I was wrong, and not failing me when he really should have. To Mr. Ransome, Mrs. Boxley, and Mrs. James for letting me exercise my God given talents. Thanx also goes to Mrs. Moore, Ms. Culver and Mrs. Mahon for finding some way to let me back up in here when I should have been at Weequahic.

To my parents, thank you for pushing me even when I did not want to be pushed. I finally made it! You have been difficult, very difficult at times, but it was worth going through. I realize that you are only trying to keep me on the "straight and narrow." Thank you and I love you!

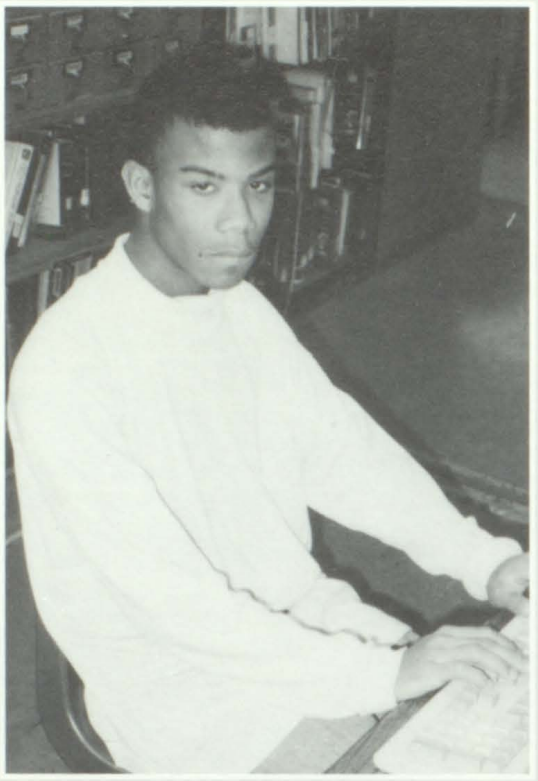
To Toya, Chita, and Tara, thank you for having an ear for listening. I never would have gotten out of high school without you. I learned from your past experiences and they helped me not to make the same mistakes you did, and for that I thank you.

Last, but not least, I want to give a special shout out to the class of '97 especially my boyz Sharef (one day you will dunk as good as me,) Rasool (first pick in the 1997 NBA draft,) y'all kept it real when nobody else would. Don 't ever change.

Finally, to anybody I missed, it must have been for a reason. One love to my babies Jeffrey, Shataria, Lil Clive, Brain, Khari and Jasmine. Be good.

Orinthius Simmons

Shawn Spearman



I enjoyed my four years at University High School. I thought that the food in the cafeteria was always funny. I would say that *you had to be there*, but really not. My years at University High school were enjoyable.

Special thanks to Ms. Stephenson, Ms. Sanford, Ms. Muhammad and Mr. Hayes. I would like to thank these teachers for teaching me during the four years I was here. I thank my mother and my father for always being there for me. I would like to thank my brothers and sisters for being there for me.

I would like to give a shout out to all my teachers, and the staff. A special shout out to Ms. Jakubiak, even though she transfered out. She was always kind and helpful to me.

Good luck to the class of 1997, and I am out.

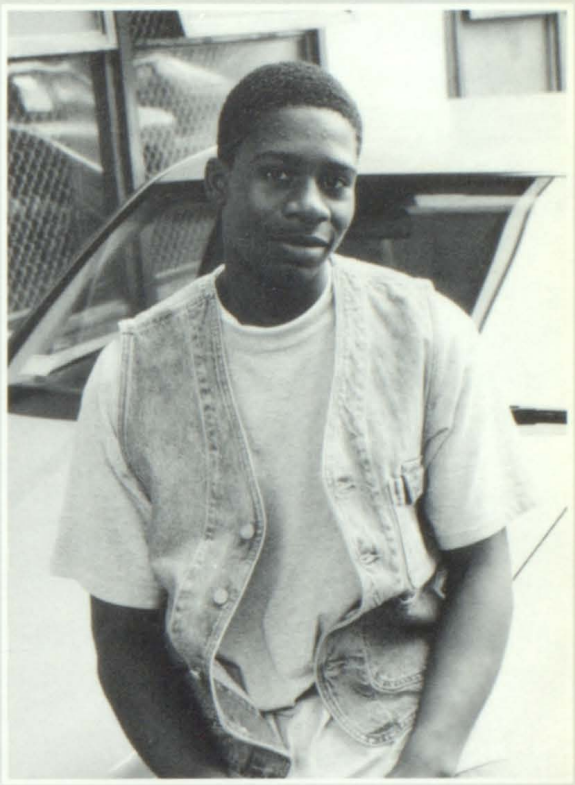


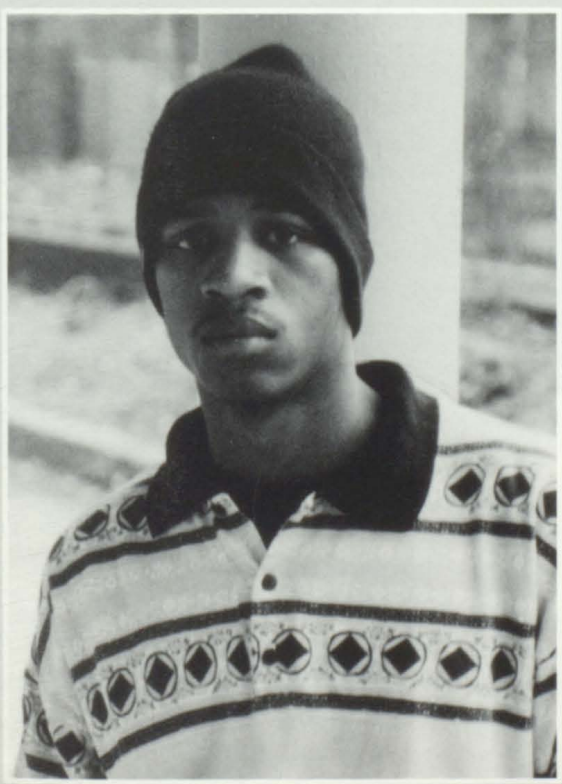
No matter what you think, everything changes. UHS needed a change for real—that's what it got! We made enemies when we walked out, but the respect we got from those on our side matters more. 4 the teachers & workers here who love the goals of communism but not the word, you'll change. 4 the students, I can't say every1, but I give u mad luv. '97 is the most original & rebellious class to enter UHS. What other class pulled off fashion shows, walkouts, talent shows etc. *before* senior year? NONE! Enough bragging— the point is *U Just Had To Be There.* Anyway, I couldn't have made it thru my math classes w/out Ty (the funniest), Haile, & Scarb. Viet Nam, don't forget Paris. Karla, Kenya, & Ta, y'all are my closest friends & comrades & I love u 4 life. Tasha: Thanks 4 Maya. OK Haj, u got your sentence! Zandra & Steph, we pass the red torch to you—burn it down! My family gave me the freedom to see things how they are, & fight to make things better forever—thanx. 4 all y'all who think u got rid of PLP, see u at Rutgers fall '97—the fight is on!

Margaret Stevens

Sharef Talbert

Mom sorry you couldn't be here to witness this milestone in my life. Thanx to my grandmother for being there when I needed her. To the #1 person in my life my sister thank you for keeping me on the right track. What's up to my little man Doogie stop being a bad nephew. To my cousin Ant thanks for teaching me all about girls. To Hank thanks for being a father figure to me. Kai thanks for being the little brother I never had. Now I want to give a shout out to all my peeps on Avon Ave (Desert Set). Thanx for looking out for me. To my life long friends Rasool and Doodie and the rest of the friends I've made in the struggle. I couldn't have made without y'all. Big "S" love you always. "Gen" thanks for everything see ya at Chuck E. Cheese. To all the lunch tables: J.A.S.T., da kung fo fighters, and the lunch crew keep up the good work. To my girl Tyisha see you in the Women's A.B.L. Genius (Tanisha) thanks for bringing back the whop at the party. To my favorite teacher Mr. Hankerson (X-Man) anything else is not math. To my click the Perverted Monks: keep your heads up and I wish all you success. If I didn't name you that's because I didn't have enough characters. To all the people who said I wouldn't make it I ain't mad at cha'. To the senior basketball players of 95-96 thanks for the memories.





I have been a student at University High School for the past two years. Last year, my boy Shadee, went to sit on a desk, and missed. To me, at the time, it was so funny, but after I thought about it, I realized that he could have gotten hurt, and it would not have been so funny, but *I guess, you just had to be there.*

I want to give thanks to God first. I want to thank my Mom for harassing me to go to school. To all my teachers who have helped me, and the staff at University including the guidance and library staff.

Mad shout-outs to: Kwa, Slick, Comika, Ricks, Kennisha, and all the rest of my pals in the school who I am cool with.



Samuel Taylor

Danille Vernon

I have been in University for as long as I can remember. It's been a rough road, but now it's time for me to say my good-byes and experience the world on my own. I would first and foremost like to thank my mom, who has given me moral, emotional, and physical support. To Pat and Egypt, I love you two very dearly. Dwight, thanks for understanding me when no one else did. For my grandma, I dedicate all my achievements and hard work. To my best friend Tasha, thanks for putting up with me through all the years. It really means a lot. Deeka, Chimere, and Chanita, you guys have been there through it all, good times and bad. To Tasha, Sharree, and Keenah, stay true to the game that can't ever be forgotten. Give Armani my love. Sameerah, I didn't forget about you. Take care of yourself and try to be happy. All of you have grown on me and helped me along the way. I take this time out to say thanks. Shout out to PNL and JAST. Rasool, even if you don't make it to the NBA, I'll remember you anyway. I'll never forget all the food fights, parties, and troublemakers because they all contributed to my good times at UHS. To all of the confused readers that don't understand what I am talking about: *You Just Had To Be There!* Congratulations to the class of 1997.



Six years, 60 months, 1,080 days, simply put, I've been at Big Uni a long time and my time here is now done. If I had the chance I'd never do it again, but to understand where I'm coming from, *You Just Had To Be There!* Never again will Uni have a class like '97. We were the class that started food fights, we were the class that participated in every sport and activity, we were the class with the political concerns, we were the class who walked out as sophomores, we chilled and got things done as well- so to all you fat phonies who loved to hate us: We out and ain't never comin' back!

To my Mom, Dad, Grandma & the rest of my family-I Luv U & thanx for being there! To Riq, thanx for the inspiration and Mi-Mi it's up to you now!

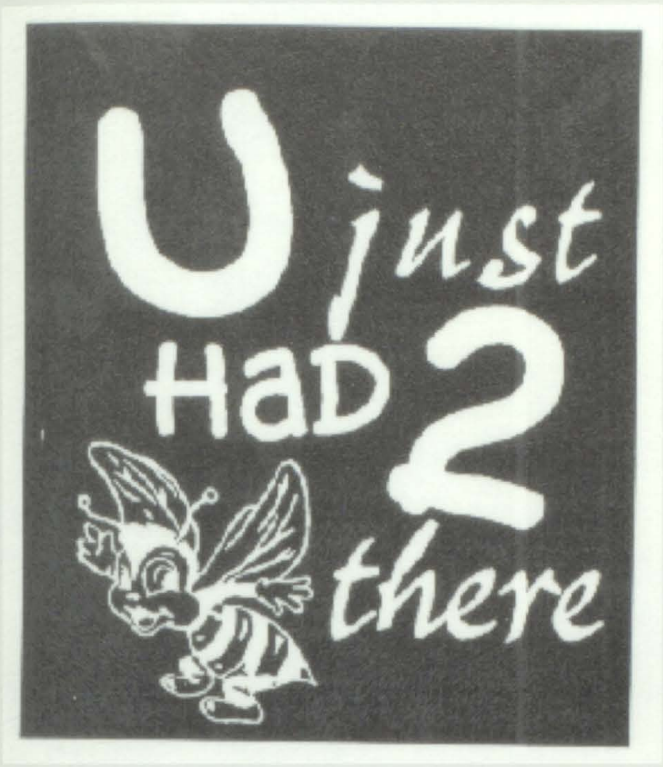
To my sista Ginga- much luv! I know being my best friend for 5 years wasn't easy, but you were always there. To Danille & Ree-Ree live long and prosper from gear and E&J! Mad luv to Meggett- you ain't miss nothin'! To P in L (Da Kung Food Fighters & Da Lunch Crew)- Food fights fo' life, Big Baby! To JAST (Jilyan, Asia my six year girl, Sadira &Tiqua)- Luv ya! To my dawg Reef- S will always hate you! See you in the bleachers Tyi! To the class of '97- luck and luv R.M.A.

P.S. To all those who hated the lil' girl with the big attitude- I'm bringing it back to the reunion!



Sahkeenah Wallace

Terrel Washington



With a basketball in my hands almost anything seems bearable. School has been one long season, but it's coming to an end. I can't tell you how many of my teachers objected to my coming to class with my b-ball, and if I tell you some of the stories, you wouldn't believe it. ***I guess you just had to be there.***

I give thanks to the people at home who care about me, and to a few special teachers for caring and teaching.

Shout-outs to Carlos, Gamliel, among others. I will miss you guys.



I have been a student here for four years, and for the most part, I had a good time in my classes and at the lunch table. There are many stories I could tell you, but *you just had to be there.*

I want to give special thanks to my teachers Ms. Sanford, Ms. Muhammad, Ms. Stephenson, and Mr. Hayes. Mrs. Johnson who has taught me some important things. To My Mother, Father, sister Melanie and Grandma: I love you and thank you for being there for me. Much love always.

Shout outs to Camika, Missy, Joy, Kannisha, Sam, Richard,Dwayne,Bernard, Luis, Jamarr, Jamal, and Shawn. I can't forget my lunch partners. You always made it fun.

Mitzi Williams

Chanel Wilson

Today, Tomorrow, and Yesterday



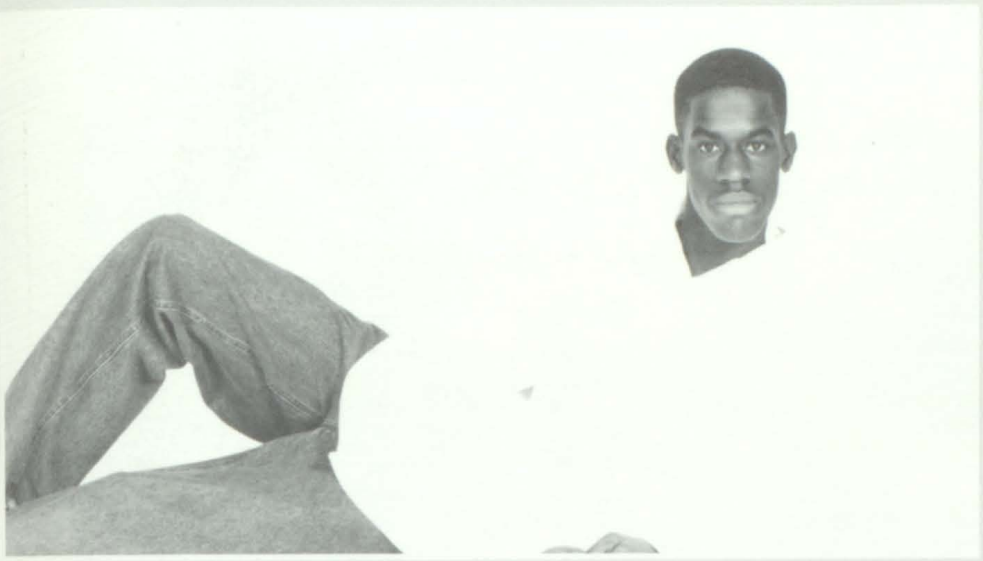
To all the people of yesterday
I thank you from the bottom of my heart
Without you I wouldn't be where I am today,
I wish we never were to part
I only wish we had more time to grow
It's with great pleasure that I know
Each and everyone
It's with you I had the best times and fun
To all the people of today, It's your life lessons
I will take
On my life's journey tomorrow, It's success
I will make
It's our memories I will cherish forever
And our friendships I shall not sever
To all the people of tomorrow I truly anticipate
But in all honesty
You just had to be there!

First and for most I give my deepest apologies to the people (teachers) that I gave many headaches with my sarcastic answers and questions. But it is now something we all can look back on and laugh about. Most of you teachers will not know what I am speaking of (only the special ones). Now for my favorite classmates. The majority of us have spent a sufficient amount of time together during the past six years to have some pretty weird things happen. Like the time Kima made the sound of a game and Fatiyauh had ginger ale soda coming out of the wrong opening (dododo..dodo). *You Just Had To Be There*. But some of us have been together a total of ten years with this including Harriet Ross Tubman. She has lead the way to University and now we are "On the Move" once again. Next I bid *Farewell* to the silliness of my teenage years and *Hello* to adulthood. Finally I give much Thanx to all my family even the extended, non-blood part. (Blood is not always thicker than water)



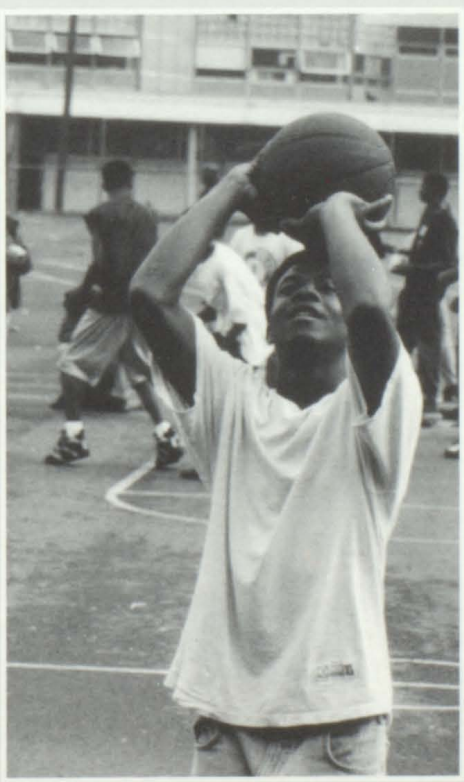
Ranell Wilson

Baron Wright

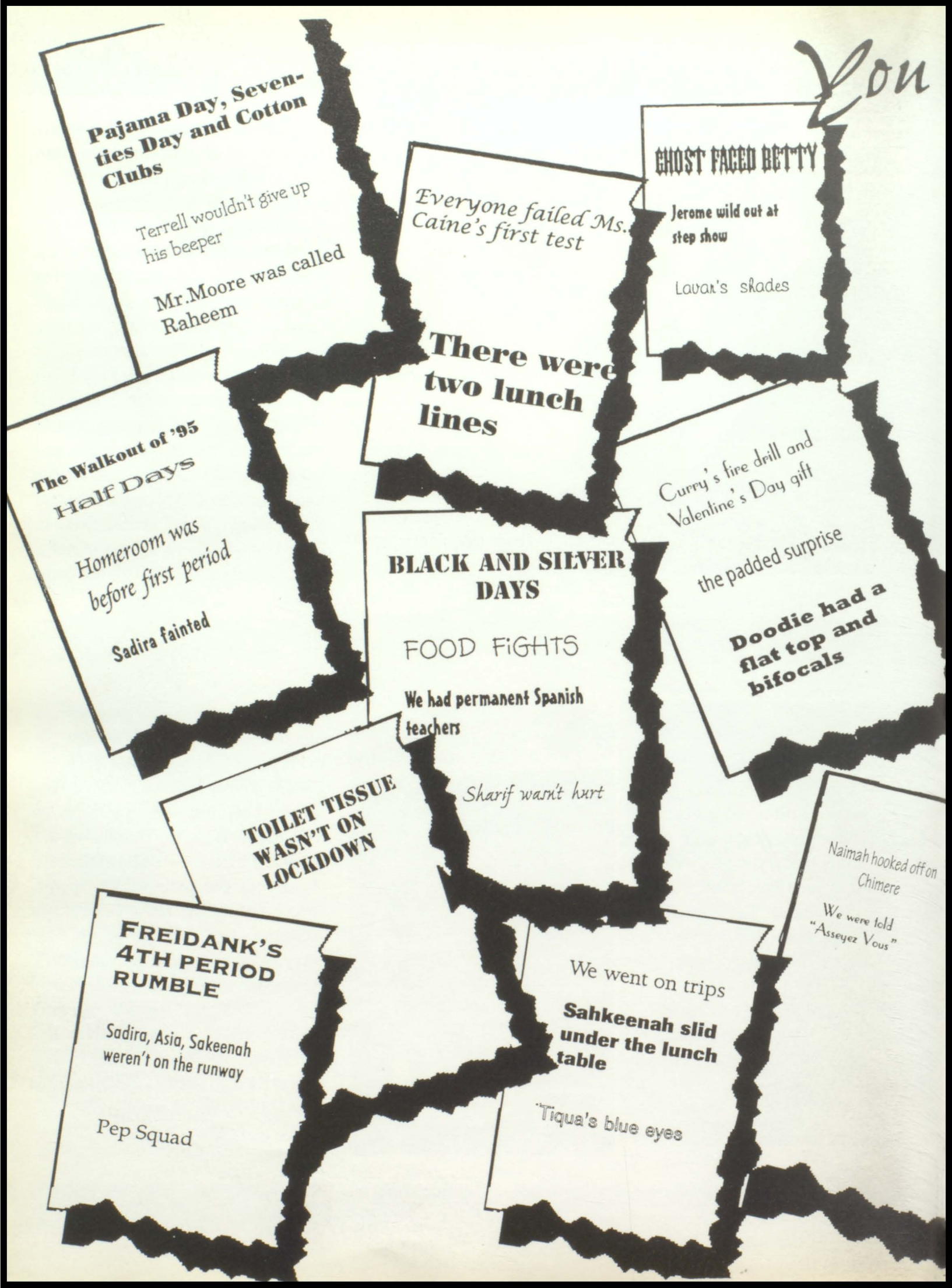


I begin my 1/2 page with this statement "Never Before, Never Again". The class of 97 has always stood out in U.H.S. academically, fashionably, actively, and school spiritually. I began my years at U.H.S. 6 years ago and I would like to thank everyone for making my years here interesting. It's amazing how, much you can learn from such a small class. The day I met the people who will become my best friends, well You Just Had To Be There. I'd like to give love to the following: To my grandmother for without her I'm nothing, to Kima "extrava" maybe one day we'll be together, to my baby's mother Kira sorry about the diapers, to my heart & wife Fatiyauh we are too much alike, to Ray thanx for being here, to my Niggets mad love, to the senior models (walk for me), and to the teachers who have pushed me at times when I felt I didn't need it. Thanks to all of you. Please remember me as the tall guy with the camera.

Rasool Wright



First off I would like to thank God for blessing me with so many talents. I would like to thank my family, especially my mother, grandmother and great grandmother for giving me that drive and inspiration, I love you all. Next I have to give much love to my best friends "Doody" and "Ref" for always being there for me. We've been through it all fellas, ya like brothers to me and I will never forget y'all. I would also like to Shout Out Tyisha, Genique, Sameerah and Johanna for being the big sisters I never had. I would also like to give much love to my heart , we've had our ups and downs but we always manage to find ourselves back together. To my D-Rock (Dennis) for always keepin it real. To my boys Vic, Kas and Haile, Thanks for the laughs. To my favorite head Sharee, thanks for the memories. To the Lunch Crew, Da Table for always trying to rough me up. To my boy Jerry, thanks for the advice and don't forget me when you're pitching in the Big Leagues. To Ms. Hewitt, thanks for all the advice and favors. Ed thanks for keepin it real. To everyone who I didn't mention, *You Just Had To Be There.*


You
Pajama Day, Seventies Day and Cotton Clubs
Terrell wouldn't give up his beeper
Mr.Moore was called Raheem
Everyone failed Ms. Caine's first test
There were two lunch lines
GHOST FACED BETTY
Jerome wild out at step show
Lavar's shades
The Walkout of '95
Half Days
Homeroom was before first period
Sadira fainted
BLACK AND SILVER DAYS
FOOD FIGHTS
We had permanent Spanish teachers
Sharif wasn't hurt
Curry's fire drill and Valentine's Day gift
the padded surprise
Doodie had a flat top and bifocals
TOILET TISSUE WASN'T ON LOCKDOWN
Naimah hooked off on Chimere
We were told "Asseyez Vous"
FREIDANK'S 4TH PERIOD RUMBLE
Sadira, Asia, Sakeenah weren't on the runway
Pep Squad
We went on trips
Sahkeenah slid under the lunch table
Tiqua's blue eyes

Just Had to be There When....

Ice cream sundaes

ADRIES AND LATASHA WEREN'T TOGETHER

Mr. Pruitt asking "You got some candy, ?"

35 CENT JUICES

Wench Mob, Lunch Crew and Nasty . . .

Remember when Jauheedah didn't ask for a quarter

The Kwaanza Incident

Scarby's bookbag and suitcase

Last year's senior class-all 5 of them

SCI-NERD HERD

Seniors did what they wanted while others only did what they could

MR. DAVIS WASN'T HAPPY

ORGANIZED CHEATING

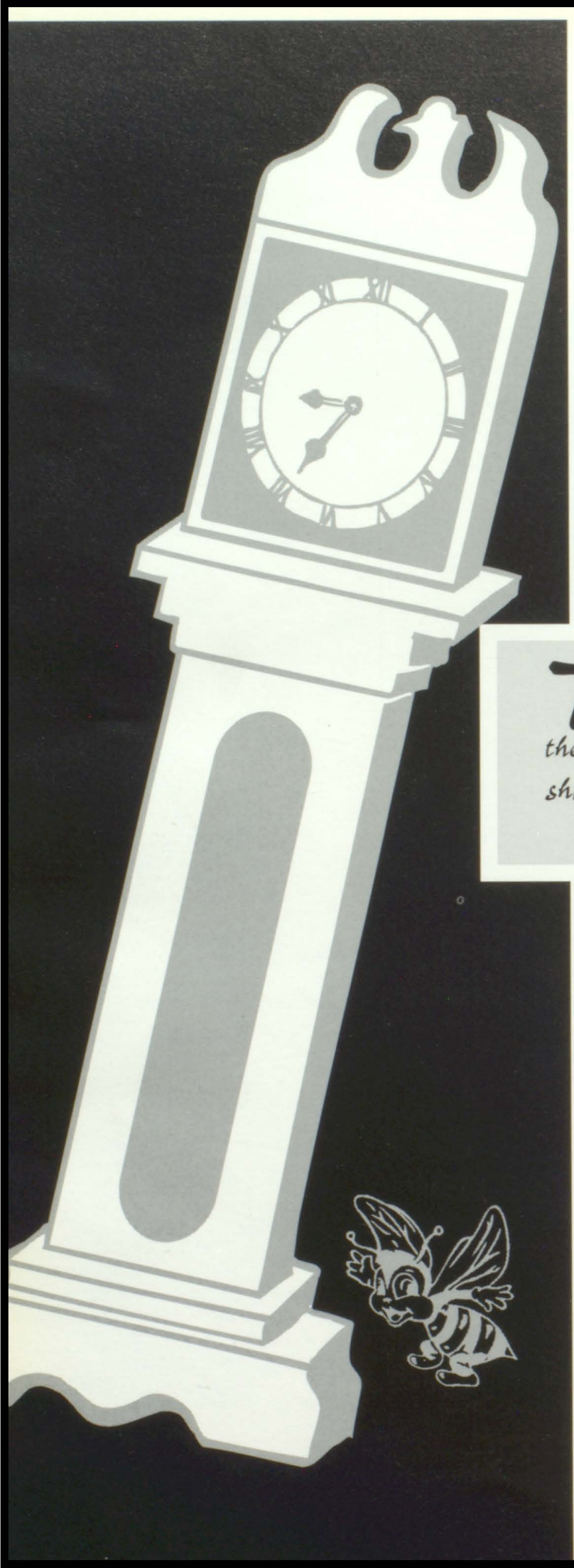
MS. CULVER AND MR. DANIELS

ADRIES WASN'T YELLING CONSPIRACY OR MAKING UP STORIES

Dr. Schulman and Mr. Zering

Mrs. Ransome didn't have jokes





Gifted and Talented

The members of the Gifted and Talented Program- show that they are more than just gifted and talented, they are strong-willed individuals who do well in a school with upperclassmen who have attained the years of maturity that they hope to reach. They run track, pass the basketball, toss the pom-poms, and pep up the school just as well as the upperclassmen. They sing and play the notes with the maturity of upperclassmen. Some of them even vogue like real fashion models on the catwalk-giving the senior girls competition. They are the future of University High School, because their ability to stay in a school as academically and socially rigorous as University dictates the school's sucess.

True spirit lies in the individual who shows it strongest.

These 7th and 8th grade students deserve much respect, because the strength and continued success of University High is within their hands. They decide whether they want to enroll in University's high school program. They continue the flight of the Phoenix by doing so. Since the Gifted and Talented Program is unequivocally the future of University, we can only view those students with awe.

Gifted and Talented

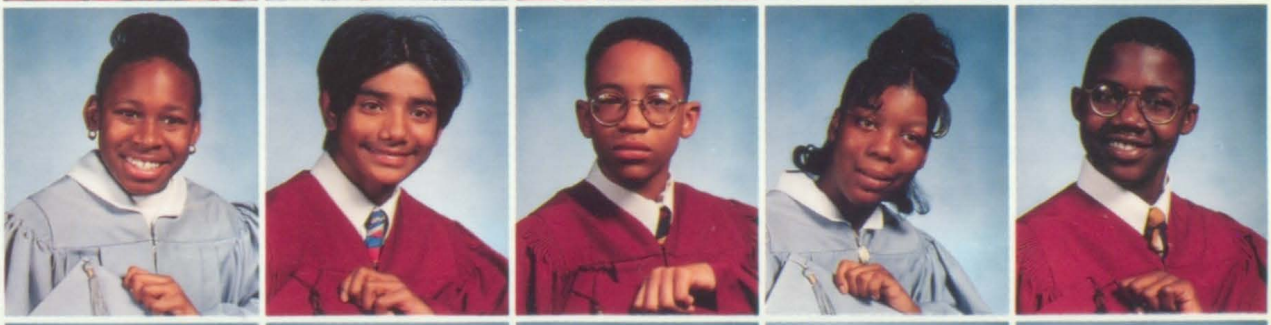
Kevin Adams
Liliana Amaro
Radon Armour
Vanessa Barker
Daaimah Bernabela



James Bowe
Shameeka Brantley
Tristan Brooks
Billie Brown
Eunice Busby



Kristen C. Chavis
Ghalib Choudhury
William Cooker
Atrisha Crobett
Radee Covington



Unique Crowley
Nicole Curtis
Dejanee Dillard
Drayton, Saladin
Duckson, Sadina



Eboni Fillmore
Marcel Gardner
Lawrence Golden
Nichole Gooding
Amirah Griffith



The Class of 1997

Melvin Hardy
Atiyyah Harris
Monique Herring
Ardja Hicks
Yakeemah Hill



Lashire Hull
Nassor Jessie
Roy Johnson
Lacy Kincy
Leigh Leblanc



Jamie Lester
Christian Lewis
Valerie Loussaint
Tiffany Lowery
Radha Maharaj



Charles Marchan
Chavonne McCray
Jennifer McGhee
Al-Nela McLeod
Sara Miller



Janel Moody
Maurice Moore
Jimmy Nazaire
Shauna Nelson
Salahudeen Norman



Being There Together





Natalyah Parker
Taryn Paylor
Devin Peacock
Fay Phillips
Jlaja Podier

Fatimah Pristell
Atiya Pryor
Krystal' Reddick
Evan Ribeiro
Ellaina Ruiz



TAJAH SELDON
ZAIKIYAH SHABAZZ
NORMAN SHERIFF
MATTHEW SMITH
JOSEPH TYSON

REGINALD WILLIAMS
SADIYYAH WILLIAMS
SIOBHAN WILLIAMS
WYNONA ROSEBURE
SAVOYIA YOUNGBLOOD

BEING HERE FOR YOU



Today's kids are tomorrow's future and as 8th grade class president I want to see you all succeed in life.

YAKEEMAH HILL



Shoot for the moon and if you miss, you'll land among the stars.

SHAUNA NELSON



When at first you don't succeed, don't stop. Keep trying until you do succeed.

NICHOLE CURTIS



If you believe in yourself anything is possible. So don't settle for less and always strive and try hard to achieve the best

CHAVONNE MCCRAY

Last Will and Testament

We, the Gifted and Talented Class of 1997, being of sound mind and eager to graduate, do hereby leave our last will to our teachers:

To **Mrs. Rivera**, a very quite and well behaved class. - *Al-Nela McLeod*

To **Mrs. Heyl**, enough calculators for an entire class. - *Amirah Griffith*

For **Ms. Howard** to always have white-out to pass around. - *Carolyn Stevenson*

A lot of baguettes for **Mr. Charles.** - *Chavonne McCray*

A bouquet of white roses for being a good teacher to **Mrs. Howard.** - *De'Janee Dillard*

Respectful students for **Mr. Gandhi.** - *Devin Peacock*

More African-American History books for **Mrs. Edmonson** - *Sadiyyah Williams*

Reams of paper for **Mr. Charles.** - Eunice Busby

Good health to all! - *James Bowe*

The Patience Award to **Ms. Howard** - *Lacy Kincy and Atiyyah Harris*

A class without any interruptions for **Mr. Gandhi.** - *Leigh LeBlanc*

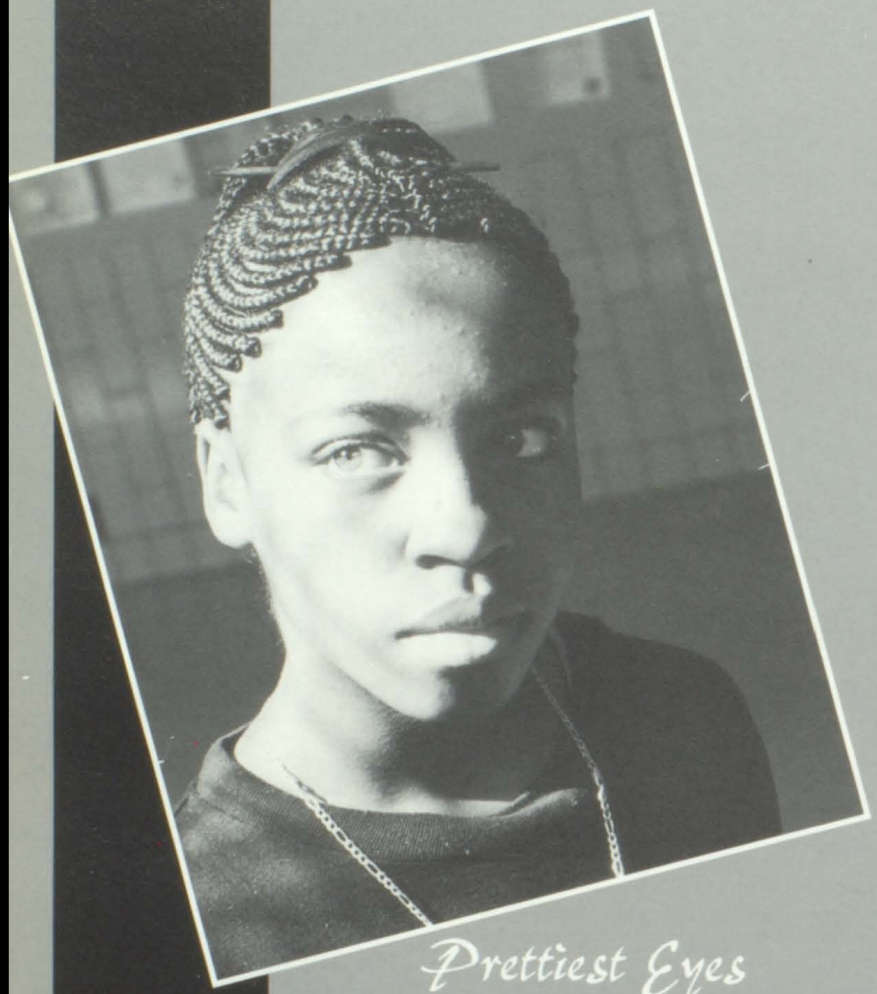
A better attitude for Eighth graders toward **Mrs. Andrews.** - Nicole Curtis

A peaceful class for **Mrs. Heyl.** - *Radha Maharaj*

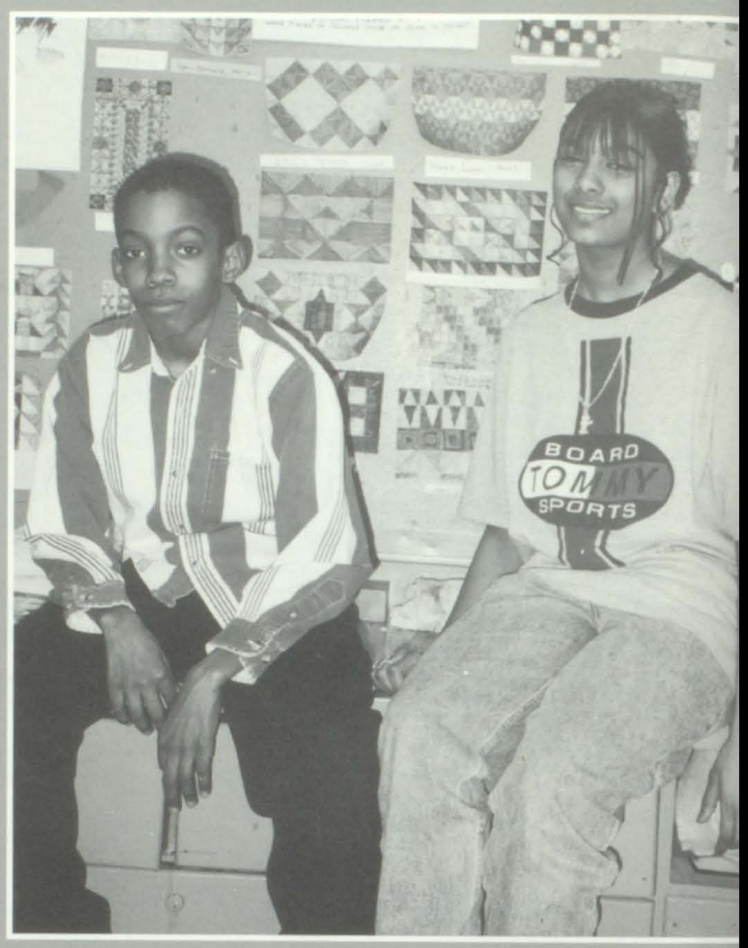
A 20,000 page report for **Ms. Rivera.** - *Sadina Duckson*

A French speaking Fay Phillips for **Mr. Charles**. - *Fay Phillips*

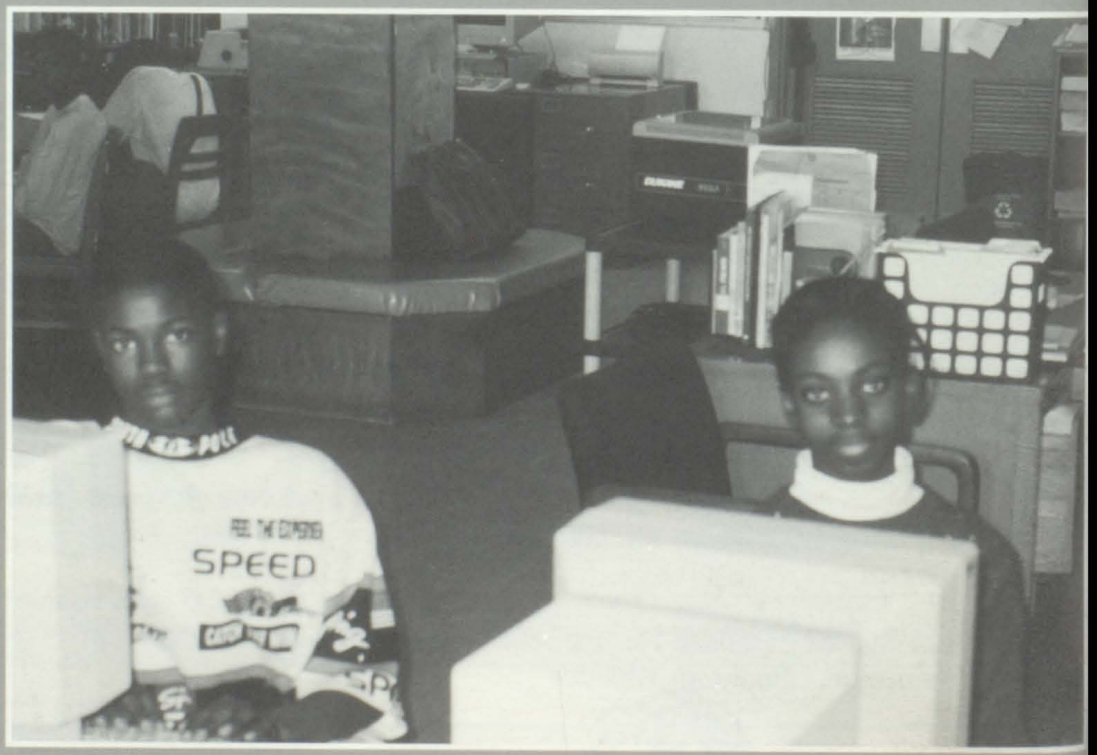
We are the Best of the Best



Prettiest Eyes
Carolyn Stevenson



Most Artistic
Radha Maharaj and Salahudin Drayton

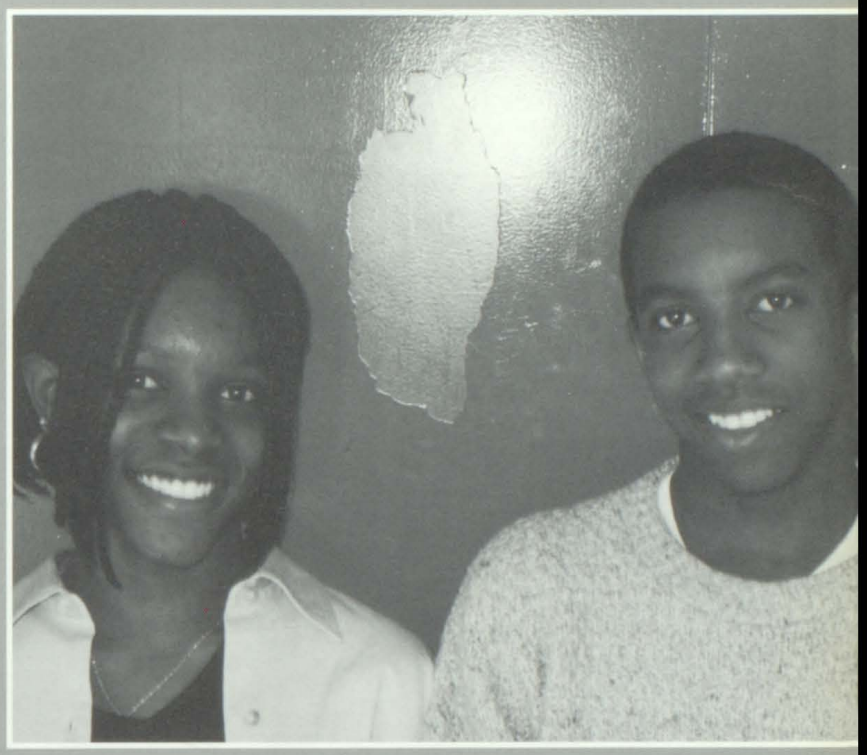


Most Likely to Succeed
Al-Nela McLeod and Norman Sheriff



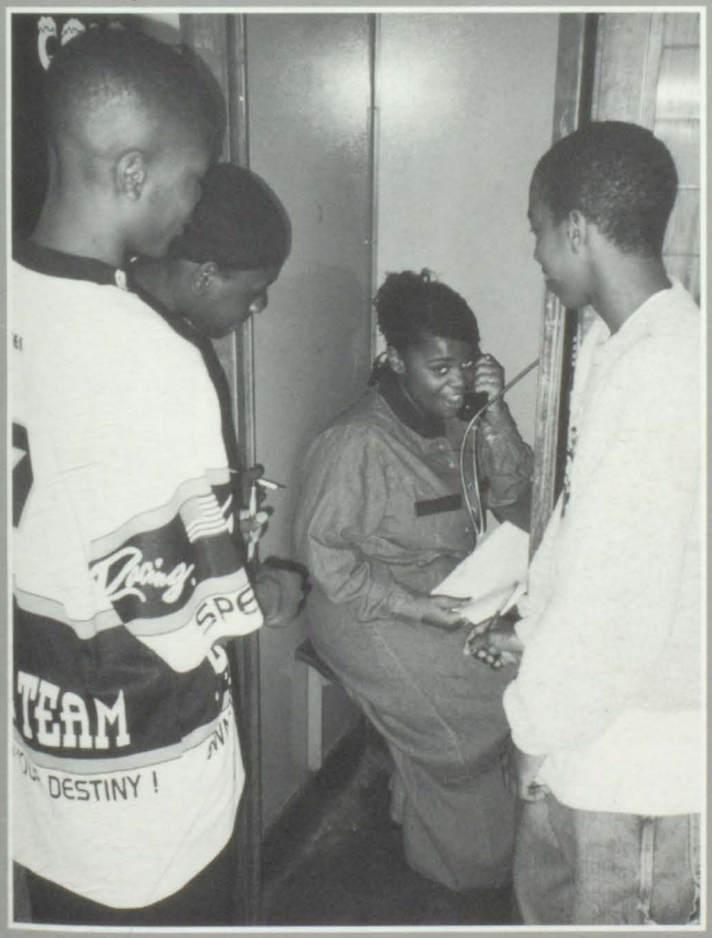
Most Verbally Expressiive

Roy Johnson and Unique Crawley



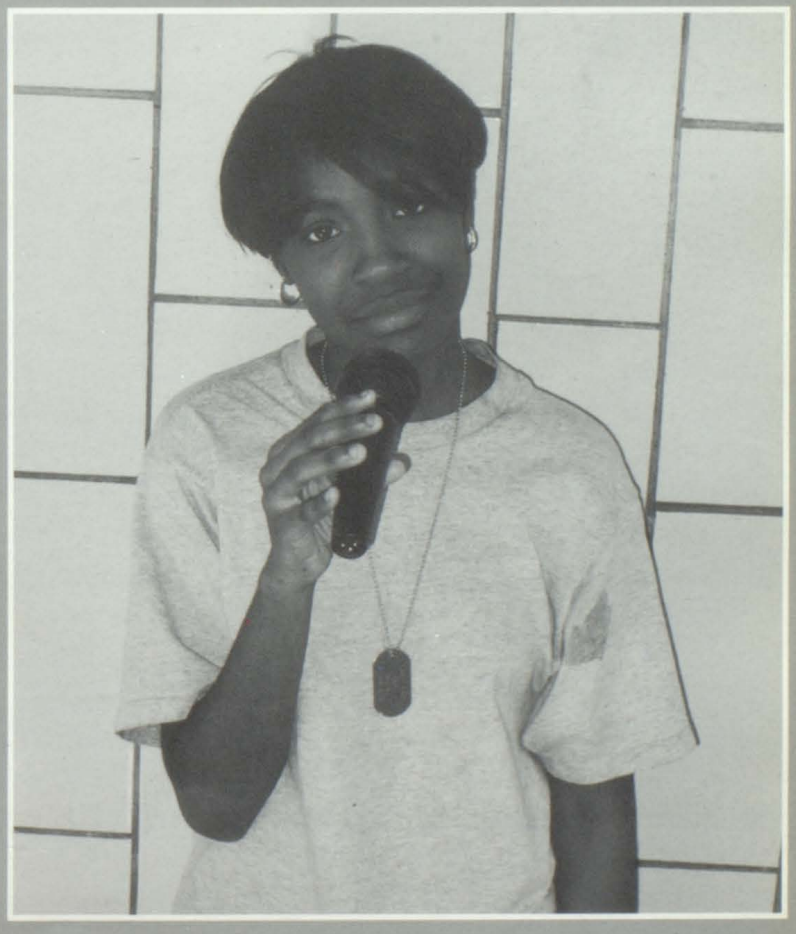
Most Memorable Smile

Carolyn Stevenson and Rajon Armour



Most flirtatiious

Unique Crawley (not pictured Nasser Jessie)



Most Likely to have a Sitcom

Yakeemah Hill (not pictured Rajon Armour)



Most Athletic

Tristan Brooks and Sara Miller



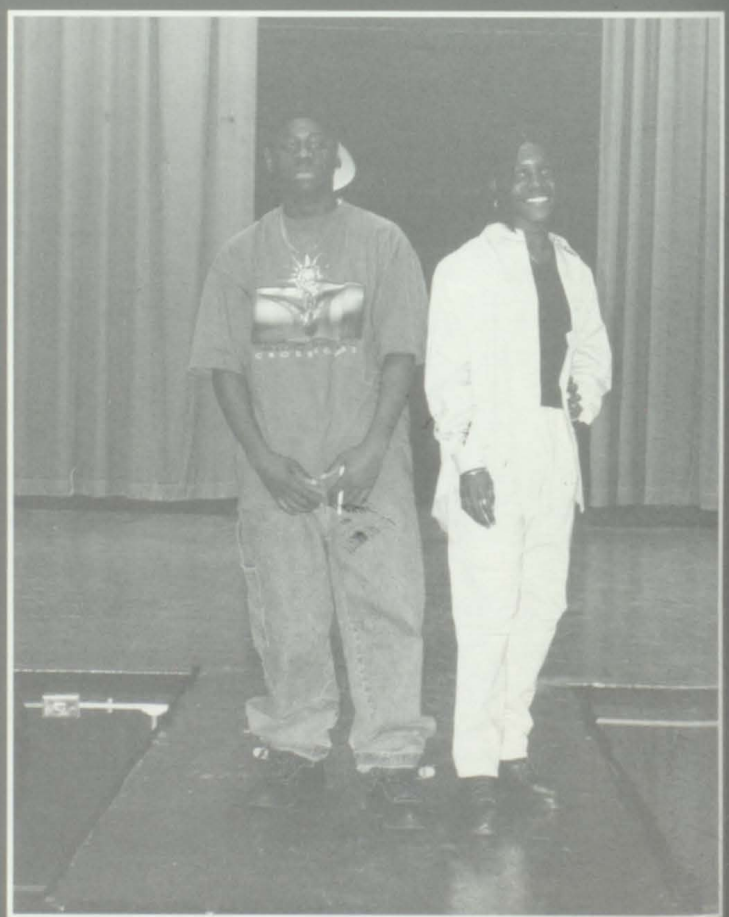
Most Distinctive Laugh

Taryn Paylor



The Quietest

Nicole Curtis and Maurice Moore

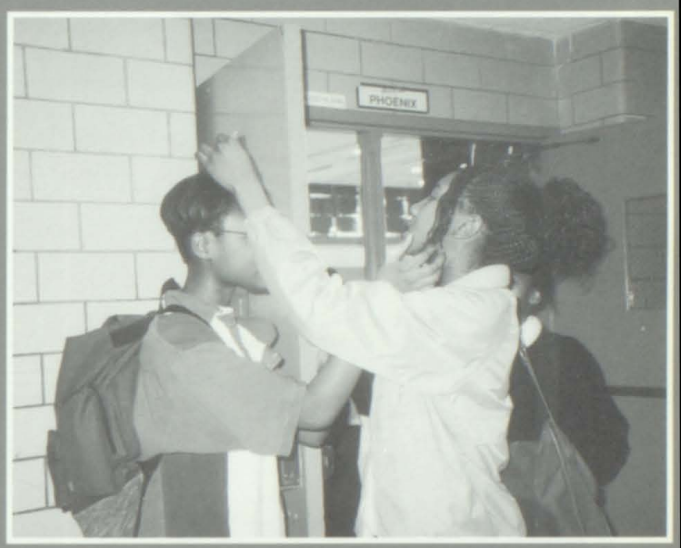


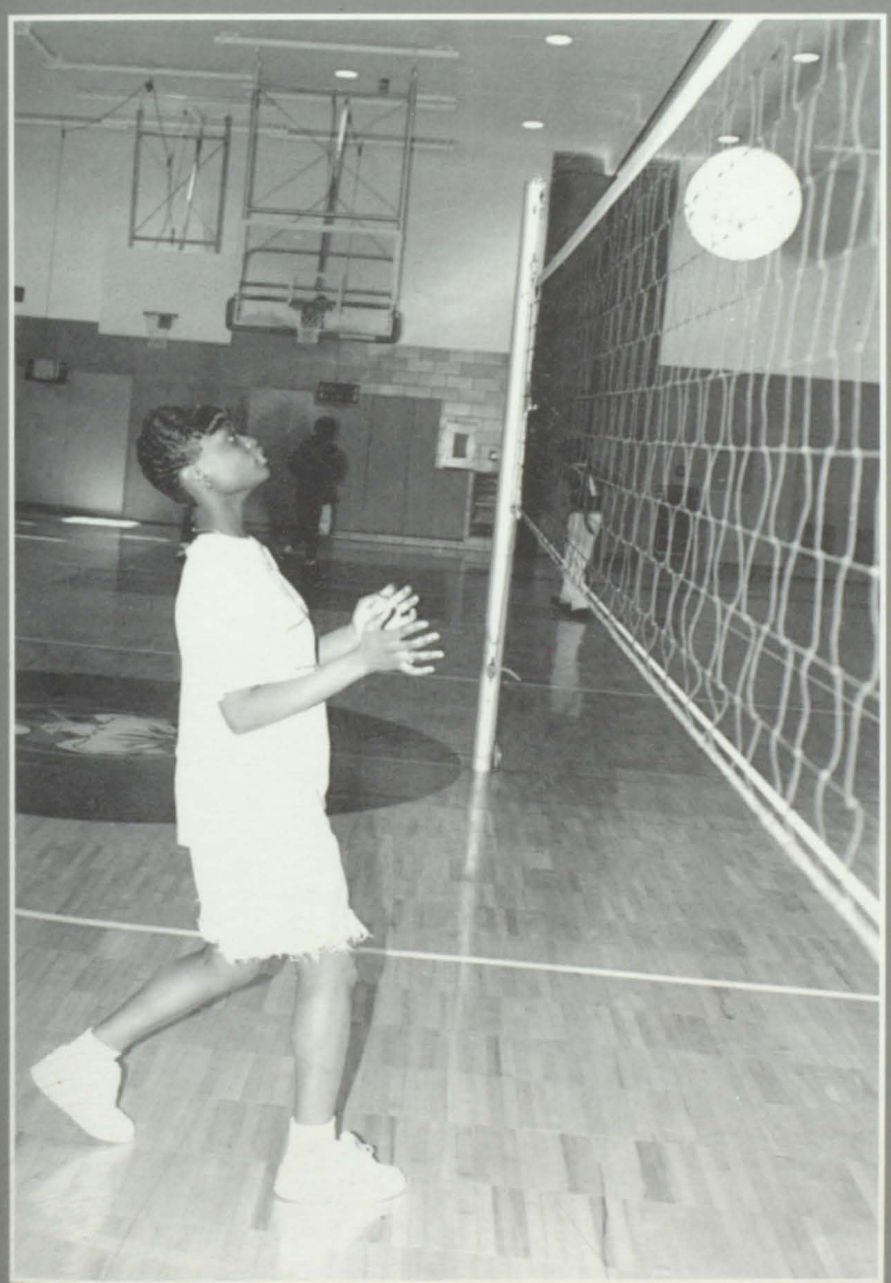
Most Fashionable

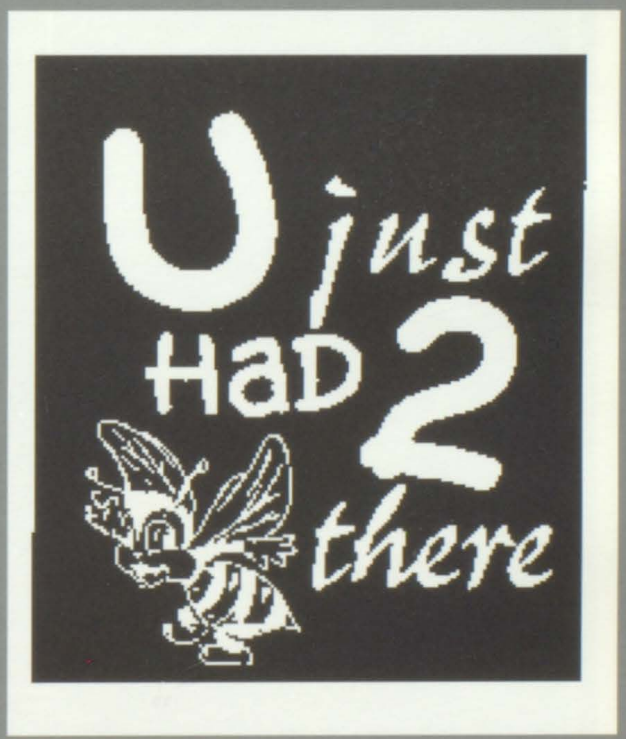
Tristan Brooks and Shauna Nelson

We're there for the work and the fun









You Just Had to

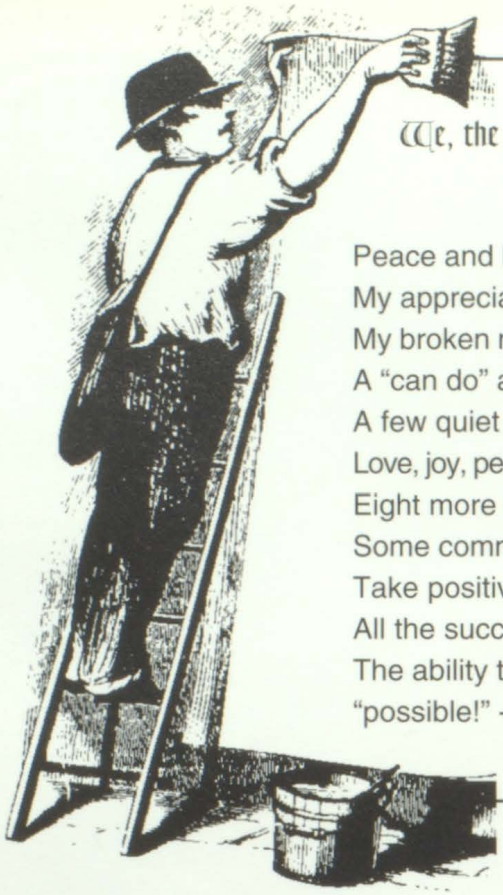


The Gifted and Ta

There.....



ented Class of 1997



Bequest

We, the faculty of the Gifted and Talented Students at University High School, hereby bequeath our very best to The Class of 1997.

Peace and Love - **Mrs. Heyl.**
My appreciation for your beautiful little faces. Be serious and be strong! - **Ms. Jones.**
My broken mug and some rubber floors. - **Ms. Rivera-Cruz.**
A "can do" attitude. - **Ms. Howard.**
A few quiet moments! - **Mr. Gandhi.**
Love, joy, peace, gentleness, muchness, goodness, faith and temperance. - **Ms. Andrews.**
Eight more hours in every day to have time for all your activities. - **Ms. Edmonson.**
Some common sense and self-discipline. - **Mr. Charles.**
Take positive steps to control your future. - **Ms. Smalls.**
All the success that hard work brings. - **Mr. Ransome.**
The ability to figure out that "impossible" is a peculiar word because most of it is "possible!" - **Mrs. Johnson.**

You Just Had to There....











Our Future is a

Basketball Players

Kevin Adams
Tristan Brooks
William Cooper
Marcell Gardener
Nichole Gooding
Matthew Smith
Nasoor Jessie
Melvin Hardy

Dentists

Maurice Moore
Jimmy Nazaire
Tristan Brooks

Artists

Sahuladin Drayton
Fay Phillips

Engineers

Jamie Lester
Melvin Hardy
Norman Shariff
Kevin Adams
Tristan Brooks
Marcell Gardener
Salahudeen Norman

Beauticians

Fatimah Pristel
Radha Maharaj
Tajan Seldon

Doctors

Radha Maharaj
Liliana Amaro
Vanessa Barker
Daaimah Bernabela
James Bowe
Radee Covington
Jamie Lester
Nicole Curtis
Chavonne McCray
Taryn Paylor
Shauna Nelson
Unique Crowley Savoyia Youngblood
Leigh LeBlanc
Lashire Hull
Ellaina Ruiz
Natalyah Parker
Krystal Reddick
Zaikiyah Shabazz
Ghalib Choudhury
Sadiyah Williams
Monique Herring
Sarah Miller
Ebony Filmore
Atiyyah Harris
Valerie Louissant
Matthew Smith
Niama Morrison

Singers

Shameeka Brantly
Dejanee Dillard
Taryn Paylor
Ashley Brown
Billie Brown
Radee Covington
Sadiyyah Williams

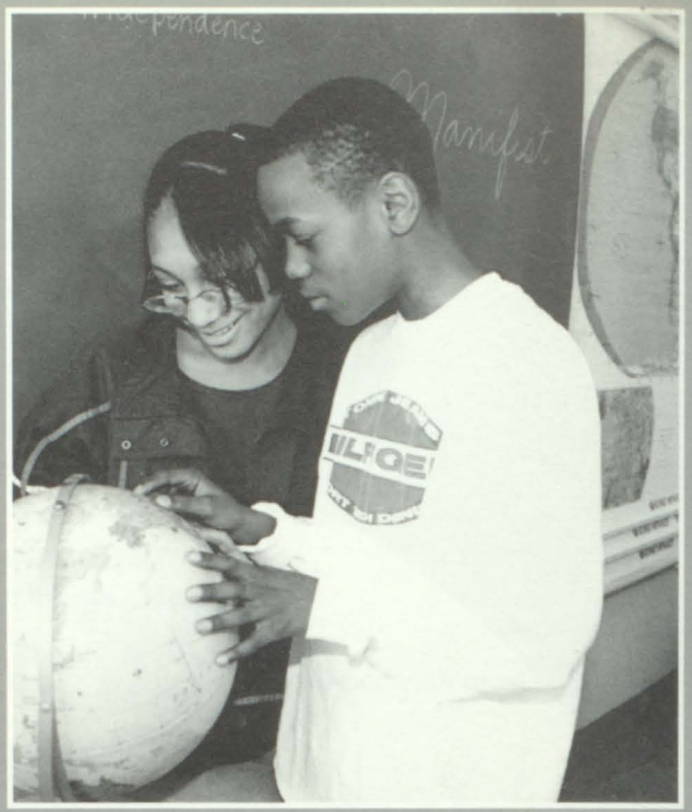
Business Men/ Women

Rajon Armour
Shauna Nelson
Leigh Blanc
Amirah Griffith
Daaimah Bernabela
Lawrence Golden

Beacon of Success

Our Favorite Things..









Favorite Teachers
Ms. Howard
Mr. Moore
Ms. Johnson

Teacher you would like to hang with
Mr. Charles
Mr. Moore
Ms. Howard

If you got a tatoo, where would it be
Arm - 10 Chest - 6
Hip - 5 Back - 2

Would you date someone 4 years older
Yes - 31% No - 5%

Would you date someone 4 years younger
Yes - 7% No - 16%

Would you date someone outside your race
Yes - 34% No - 2%

Do think the Coyote should catch the road runner?

Yes - 26 No - 9

Should the rabbit get the Trix?

Yes - 33 No - 1

What is the first thing you notice about a girl/ guy?

Eyes - 10
Hair/Clothes - 8
Body - 14
Personality - 3

Which peanut butter do you prefer?

Smooth - 15
Chunky - 10

Do you see the glass as:

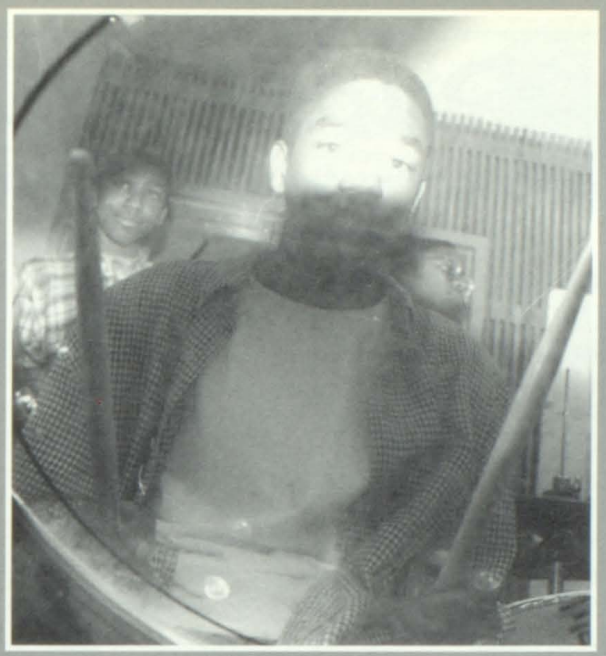
Half empty - 1
Half Full - 23

Favorite Singer (F)

Aaliyah
Monica
Whitney Houston

Favorite Rapper(M)

Tupac
Nas
Redman









Patrons and Boosters

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Nikkia Neal

LILLIE M. SHATTEEN
YOLANDA ROBINSON
LISA NATURILE
JACKIE GUY
CARLA DAVIS
LUCY AMARO
GLORIA BISHOP
RANDY MANTION
BETTY NEAL MANTION
NICOLE NEAL
TAVRON MANTION
DENNIS WRIGHT
GUSSIE NEAL
EDDIE NEAL
PATRICIA NEAL
MARC NEAL
KIANA NEAL
MARQUITA NEAL
MARCUS NEAL
CARL NEAL

Constance Neal
Brandon Wright
Alice Streeter
Robert Streeter
Frederick Neal
Willie-Anne Lattimore
Darlene Lattimore
Denise Hoff
Tammie Haynie
Lisa Embry
Alice Jenkins-Everette
Darlene Johnson
Cynthia Rasool
Cora Lattimore
Delores Lattimore
James Harris
Pat Anderson
Carolyn Anderson
Alice Jenkins-Everette
Dan Everette

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Our Favorite Graduate

NANCY KORNAGAY AND FAMILY
CORAZON ROSARIO
QUEENIE FELDER
ROSA PULLEY
DALLAS CHESTER ALLEN, JR.
SHARITA C. SERAFICA
DEANDRE WILLIAMS
GLORIA SMITH
REY HENSON
VERONICA ANONYUO
ANA COLON
MARIA Y. PINEIRO
BETTYE JEAN GRANT
JACQUELINE L. ALLEN
JULIA HICKS
DAVID JOHNSON
AMOR DORIGO

RENEE WINKEY
BARBARA MCNEILL
JANE EVELYN JONES
SHUKY ACHIA
NOEMI REBOLO BARREDO
SHIRLEY FENTY
ANGEL AMOS
MYRNA GOSMENS
HASSAN HAMILTON
MRS. LYNNE JACALAN
MARTHA OMRES
AMY MOSES AND FAMILY
A & M Dress N Things Plus
Lee's Transportation Service
Angela Belgrave
Cherri B. Brunson

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Siddeequah Harris

CLARA THOMAS
GREGORY A. JONES
DOROTHY E. ROBINSON
EVERETT MONK
JESSE SHIELDS
OTTO (CHAMP) MYLES
DONALD PERRY
DEA. WILLIS CANADY
BRO. PAUL OLIVER
DEA. WILLIE CHILDRESS
RALPH SWANSON
MR. W. WASHINGTON
LAVERNE HARDAWAY
LORETTA ROUSE-CHRISTIAN
OLA LOUIS
REBECCA BOWNMAN
CLARICE HODGES
WILLIE BROWN
WILMER IRVIN
ESTELLE IRVIN

CHARLES ANDERSON
CYNTHIA WOODY
DAN JAMES
CHARLES WHEATT
PRESCILLA WHEATT
TYWAYNE WHEATT
LEOLA JOHNSON
PEARL WILSON
JULIA WOODY
JOHN WILLIAMS
GEORGE JONES JR.
FAUDE PERINE
DEA. WALKER
REV. B. JOHNSON
DEACON M. ROBERTSON
MOTHER SMITH
BRO. JAMES HALLOWAY
BETTY DANIELS
JACQUELYN DANIELS
CHARTON SMITH

Congratulations and Best wishes to Qiana Hart

MINISTER LAWRENCE STEWART
JOHN MCCLAIN
DAVID LEWIS
UNCLE EARL
AUNT CASSANDRA
Bro. W. Hill
Don Moore
Bro. Jerry Wiley
R. McMillan Sr.
Bro. Cobb Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. John R. Stewar
Ira Powell

Uncle Jones
Bro. F. Wilson
Mary Singletary
Grandma Hart
Aunt Kimmie Salter
Zeta Zigma Phi
Aunt Lecenia
Lady Sulia #15
Martin L. King Youth Court
Kadeisha McMillan
Uncle Lewis Jr.
Sis. Linda Moore
Sis. Annie Osborne

Congratulations to Sahkeenah Wallace

TAMEERAH M. HINES
VINCENT T. WILSON
ANGELA RABB
Tara M. Hines
Mommy
Dara Venice
Darryl Vaughn

Congratulations to Brendalyn Henry

Yahyra DeLeon
Kat & D-Rock
Lizzy "Latin Queen"
Mike & Gennifer
Aaliyah
Todd the Super Hero
STACY WESTSIDE BROWN

Congratulations and Best Wishes to DeJanee Dillard

THERESA H. MARCHETTA
Doreen Johnson
Leon Barnes
Gloria Johnson
David Johnson
David Johnson
AnneLelin Williams
Deborah M. Jackson
Rory Jackson
Gerald Alan Jackson, Jr.

Justen Quin Dillard
Denecia George
Stanley George
LeNise George (Diva)
Queana George
Dianne Dillard (Lynn)
Lissette Casiano
Gregory Johnson
Michael Johnson
Geraldine Dillard

Patrons and Boosters

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Melinda Murphy

VICTORIA F. FERRERA
TAMMARRA R. JONES
PAT WING
S. HEWETT
ALFREDA PAYNE
HELEN A. PAYNE
CLAIRE LANGERON
JUANITA PULLEN
FLORENCE BROWN
SAM SPEARS JR.
ESTURE MAYE
CAROLYN FARMER
MARY STOKES
SARAH MILLER
MAXINE BAISDEN
JUPERATIVE BAIF
CORRINE WALKER
Raheem Moore
Darleen Drinkard
Pamela Thoents
Angela Genkins
Gurdie Audaim
Maxine Baisden
Gloria Cheeks
Wali K. Muhammad

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Michael Ivery

From the Staff at Chancellor Ave. School

Alphonso Baskerville
Maurice Smith
Marvin Young
Harriet Speed
Marvin Young
Josephine Pettigrew
Isabell Sellers
Effie Burchett
Amir Abdul-Ghani
Lillien Mays
Dorothy Sheppard
Lillian White
Fredrick S. White
Edies Cantillo
Carol Berry
Ella M. Edmons
Evelyn Shorter
Elva Williams
Robert Liput
Phillis Lester
Hollace Peele
Derek Riley
Doris Riley
Sadie McCoy
Hanna Mason
Your Sis Sameerah Brenbow

Congratulations to Akilah Bowden

GAIL S. BOWDEN
Carol Hart
Evelyn Esquillin
Nakesha Dunn
Suzanne Callanan
Anthony D. Brown
William Waddell
Earl Fulcher
B. G. Harvey
Michael Volk
Edward Wilder
John Sauk
Ralph Kislowski
Roxanne Lugo
Grace Beaumont

Congratulations to Tigua Knight

Valerie Knight
Aunt Sheila
Tyshiff
Steve Beatty
Mary Beatty
Officer Mike
Kennard Iwing
Glenn Davis
Reggie Lewis
Jermaine Johnson
Sean Fletcher
Belinda Jones
Ms. James
Jameica Tutter
Ashlee Sullivan

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Danille Vernon

BERNICE COKE
DOLLEY VERNON
DWIGHT VERNON
BARBARA DUNCAN
TINA ROBINSON
TASHA WEAVER
DEEKA
CHIMERA BROWN
CHANITA LUCKY
KAREEM UNDERWOOD
ANTOINE L. POOLE
LEON HESTER
GILANI
DION WHITE
SLUGGER WILLIAMS
DION CANN
JAWWAAD BUTLER
WILLIAM THOMAS
JUANDA BOXLEY SANDRA HEWETT
PATRICIA WING
JOYLETTE MILLS-RANSOME
ELIZABETH BLACKMON
SHAREE FIELDS
LAMAR DUNCAN
TASHA MEGGETT
SAMANTHA BENNETT
THYRECIA WEAVER
TERRANCE CLEMENS
QUEEN CALDWELL
MRS. DUNHAM
Tina S. Franklin
Egypt Alexus Vernon
Patrice Vernon
Maxine Shorter
Tiffany Shorter
Schatonna Duncan
Jasmine Duncan
Jean Charles
Justin Charles
Fleming Jaspers
Khalif Franklin
Derek Thompson
Junior Williams
Raheem Jones
Kenny
Michael Caldwell
Scott
Dennis McCalla
Rasool Wright
Colin Edmondson
Dwayne Sanders
Robert Hankerson
Kimesha Grant
Alicia Mahon
Todd Harris
Michael Daniels
Anthony Blaine
Dennis Lewis
Qua
Daisy Madison
Tamika Pedros-Peters
Jaime Zeno
Valerie Barnes
Mary Altiere
Johanna JoJo
Asia Mac
Sameerah Boo
S.
Kenya Pope
Anise "Neicy" Robinson
Kit Kat
Jihad Ewing
Billie Brown
O.J.
Otis Anderson
Ida Irving
Kel Wms
Louie-ville
Kas
Bas
Todd Milledge
Khalid Coursey
Jibri
Louise Lewter
Armani J. Hinnant
Omar
Boo
Tesha Curry
Sharell Parker
Elizabeth Cruz
Liz
Jlaja Podier
Niheem
Scarbie
Sandra Ryder
Ranell Wilson
Ken Simons
Derek Foster
Na'imah Iman Days
Taeyma Sapp
Chinaire Fields
Erica Griffin
C. Harris
Carlos J. Rodriguez
Angel Gordon
Baby Lamar
Ebony
Tevin
Temeik Jones
Tau-Tau Bone

Patrons and Boosters

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Qiana Robinson

SHEILA ROBINSON-PRICE
KAMAL DUNSTON
MRS. NINA Y. APPIAH
MRS. MAYRA URQUIJO OGUREK
MS. MALIKITA WRIGHT
WILLIAM HALLMAN
OTIS NELSON
MARIETTA MAYES HICKLIN
KEM "MUHAMMAD" ROBINSON
LISA DELOATCH
Debrah Williams
Derek Robinson
Ms. J. James
Stephanie Foard
Kamilah S. Crawley
Anthony Jenkins
Leslie Carey

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Alisha Lee

SHAHIDA MITCHELL
COREY BROWN
WILLIAM THOMAS
MICHAEL DANIELS
WALTER KACZKA
DEBORAH LEE
SANDRA WILLIAMS
PATRICIA WING
RODNEY LYLE
TIMOTHY WILLIAMS
TONEY JONES
LEROY HODGES
ROBIN STEWART
LOYD STEWART
SUSANNE LEE
ELIZABETH BLACKMAN
UNCLE TIM
AUNT DONA
THE BYERS
WE LOVE YOU
Kera Lee
Timothy Byers
Dona Lee Byers
Jean Charles
Linda Melvin
Valerie Noble
Alicia Mahon
Harold Friedman
Michael Simmons
Terrell Washington
Elizabeth Cruz
Ka'seem Randell
Roseanne Heyle
Tasheria Taliafero
Quetzy Cruz
Mary Wiggins
Grace Beaumont
Imani-Nicole
Waceera G. Sanford

Congratulations to Vincente Rosa

CANDIDA ROSA
JOSE AGUERO
MARIA ORTIZ
RUBEN B. MONTES
CARMEN MIRANDA
HILDA MIRANDA
Sacha Perez
Jerry Perez
Anabel Colon
Christian Reyes

Congratulations to Stacy Brown

AMIEL A.K.A. JUNIOR
PHYSICS GIRL
Dr. Evelyn Nelson
Freddie D. Nelson
Dorian L. Nelson
Vernon S. Nelson
Shaka Zulu
LUcille McAdams
Officer Raymond McAdams
Timika S. Logan
Damien Thorne
Barbara A. Raines
Douglas E. Raines
William L. McAdams
Wayne McAdams
Mr. Brown
Olivia Brown

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Haile Henry

ROSLYN EDGERTON
JOSEPHINE BENNETT
JOYCE HENRY
TONYETTE JACKSON
ALFIE MORTON
EVELYN WRIGHT
EDWARD PATRICK
RAHSAAN HENRY
OMAR JACKSON
RICHARD ISAAC
LUIS FOOTE
LUIS MEDINA
DIAMOND BURGESS
JUANITA BILLINGS
MARY RHINEHART
SHERI AQUART
DONALD ROBINSON
MARGIE MASON
VANESSA MASON
SIMONE SEALY
CHRISTY LONG
PATRICIA HAWES
REV. WEBB
REV. M. WILLIAMS
REV. SHIRLEY AQUART
REV. GEORGANN CALLIS
GWEN COOK
KARL PRITCHET
STEPHANIE ROBINSON
CAROL S. LOGAN
DWAYNE E. BARR
JANICE BILLINGSLEA
JANICE BILLINGSLEA
PHYLLIS WHTAKER
JACQUELINE HARRIS
Rose Richardson
Rita Beryl Robinson
Patricia Ann Yelverton-Spruce
Darryl Adams
Helen Callis
Jason Wright
Yanik Donaldson
Jade Sligh
Mayleen Scott
Victoria Burrell
Michelle
Siaeng Roberts
Crystal A. Elliott
Darlene Clements
Morris Billingslea
Janine Jones

Congratulations to Tia Jackson

DELL YOUNG
ELSIE WILSON-GRIFFITH
DEACON HENDERSON
KENNETH HARPER
KATE MASON
Wilkes Smith
Gwen Nelson
Patricia Branch
Julia Sykes
Pattie Hugee
Azizah Smith
Mary Cooper
Tracey Francis
Zack Cooper
Titus Garad
Dwain Jackson
Easter Robinson
Valerie Noble
Mary Grantham

Congratulations to Charles Marchan

EVERARD J. AGARD
HELLIE AGARD
VERITA AGARD
CHARLES MARCHAN
DEANN MARCHAN
DEENA MARCHAN
CECIL MARCHAN
ALBERTINA MARCHAN
ROSALIND GRAY
DOLLY SMITH
ADONIS SMITH

Patrons and Boosters

Congratulations and Best Wishes to Hajar Abdus-Sabuur

SPENCER GRAY
WILLIAM L. PEARSON, III
DR. IRA JEFFREY
JACQUELINE JEFFREY
CHARLES B. WHITE
CORA CASTILLO
FAZEH DUYEN
ROBERTA L. MORTON
THOMAS P. HOFLER
HAROLD R. HOOPER
CAROL GRIFFITH
HERMAN ANIS
TROY T. EVERETT (WNJR RADIO)
DAIRLAND ICE CREAM
FUQQAN ALI
CLYDE BOOKER
DONALD BROWDER
TERRY OUTLAW
WADE A WILLIAMS
DONNIE MINGO
LUCKY JAMES
GERALD HILL
LARRY GREGORY
DONALD MALONE
WILLIE SINGLETARY
MR. H. FRIEDMAN
MR. WILLIAM THOMAS
REV. JOHN EDWARDS
BETTINA DICKERSON
TASHA BASKERVILLE
GAIL BAVIEAU
ROY GON
SAMUEL WYLIE
GREGORY BOURNES
CURTES BERKLEY

ARTHUR CLERK
WILLIAM MOORE
GERALD COLDKEY
SONIA WILLIAMS
BOBBY BEAVERS
SAMUEL R. PEMBERTON
IRENE CREWS
AMINAH ABDUS-SABUUR
LARRY SMITH
WANDA WILLIAMS
ASHLEY N. BOWERS
LUTHER ROBERSON
LARRY HANKS
WILLIAM P. NEWKIRK
RAFI M. KOONTZ
KELLY CALLAHAN
JESUS GROLIMANS
FREEDY WILSON
LATIN SOMERVILLE
HARRY LEGRAND
WAAJID BRANCH
RAY GARNER
AL HARRIS
RON CHAPMAN
REV. MARTIN D. ODOM
M. BLALOCK
TIMONTHY BEARDSLY
EUGENE BROWN
KENNETH ROBINSON
GEORGE JOHN
DEXTER ROSS
ELLIOT JAMES
MUSTAFA MUHAMMAD
ABDUL HAGG
PAUL CRANSFORD
NOEL ROBINSON

MARQUISE
WILLIE F. WARD
RODNEY L. HOLLIDAY
BROTHER X
PERCEY YATES JR.
Wajid Branch
Ian Green
Altston Williams
Greg Mitchell
Alfred Wright
Simon Scott
Zakiyyah A. Cobb
Turrell Anderson
Adria Denise Ladd
Harvey Dock
Leroy Johnson
Charles Gregory
Robert Dias
Eugene Lawson, Sr.
Bernard Julian
Brenda E. Thomas
Eugenee Phillips
Tonuia J. Dent
Qasim Ahbai
Zandra Haywood
Sam Wyatt
Earl Jones
Quinn Williams
Earl Foster
O'Kellis Williams
Glenn Riggans
Barbatte Baker
Anthony Curtis Minor
Zandra Leverett
Adrienne McLeod

Willie Greogyr
Wallace Williams
Charles D. Frazier
Marie Wilson
James Cooper
David Gillians
Forrest Green
Marce Gist
Michael Moore
Aimee Thompson
Kizzy White
Russel J. Holt
Seck Ousmane
Harold Brown
Shawn Waskins
Floyd Smith
Dwayne T. VanDerVeer
Irene Crewes
Annette Meyers
Mr. Ron Jackson
Mrs. D. Robinson
Ms. Dia Jackson
M. Tufail
Joyce Guiles
Mildred Garrand
Amir Muhammad
Crystal A. Dickinson
Carol Franklin
Syndy Banks
Martha Jenkins
Cue Johnson
A. Kaye
Jackqueline Blount
Jilmar White
Kevin S. Salter

Congratulations and Best Wishes to La'Tesha Curry

AWILDA QUINONES
CYNTHIA CARTER
DOROTHY WASHINGTON
RANDA KNIGHTON
JANE BOYD
ALTA BLANDING
BEVERLY TOLBERT
PATRICIA CHILDRESS
ANGELA ANDERSON
LONNIE SMITH
NANCY HORTON
ANDREA COVINGTON
IDA LIGONS (LENA)
CHARLES FRIDAY
THERESA BROOKS

YVONEE WALKER
JEAN-MARIE HAMILTON
VALERIE CURRY
ROBERT BAZMORE
GLORIA CURRY
DEBRA CURRY
SHANDRIA GOMEZ
TYRONE N. GOMEZ
PATRICIA GOMEZ
DANIEL GOMEZ
TYLIAH JOHNSON
DEATRA JOHNSON
CEASER CURRY
JUANITA GOMEZ
CHIQUANA GIBBS

TAKENYA KNIGHT
Awilda Quinones
Petra Negron
Rosemarie Ford
Dorothy Washington
Cynthia Carter
Yvonne Moment
Maria Medina
Randa Knighton
Jane Boyd
Alta Blanding
Patricia Childress
Anela Anderson
Lonnie Smith

Nancy Dolan
Andrea Covington
Charles Friday
Theresa Brooks
Yvonne Walker
Big Red H.A.C.
Big Phil
Jerry
Dennis Lewis
Danile
Jerome & Tanisha
Sharmaine Elam
JoJo Gonzalez
Ranell Wilson

Patrons and Boosters

Congratulations And Best Wishes to Jennifer-Marie Rooks

Anfernee Hardaway
Sergio Godniho
Shadeequah Torrence
Chanel Wilson
Haddy mack
S
Paula J. Anthony
Marcell Dardner
Brendalynda
Aisha & Mooch
Happy
Kitkat
Michael Caldwell
Tesha Curry
Sha & Shah
Mr. & Mrs. R. Campbell
Keenan "K" Harrison
Enethia Johnson
Simone Johnson
Tasha Dyer
H.A.C. "Big Woo"
O. Howard
Donna Hardiman

Stacey Love
Jason Holmes
Leonard King
Lucky C.P.P.
Wazir C.P.P.
V. Ferrera
Todd Harris
Leetwwwan Snowden
Tommy Paterson
Kaleef Henderson
Shakeerah Davis
Quian Christmas
Mrs. Wiggins
Channel Way
Lizzie Cruz
Butter Pecan Rican
Haile Hendry
Kel Wms
Scraby
Fight for Communism
Philly
Mike III

Sleepy "Daphy few"
Barry
Denard
Mrs. Wiggins
Money J1/2
Faheem
YAHYRA DE LEON
WINNIE & GAMI
Y TWIN D-ROCK
ROSE & T
BEULAH MARTIN
KETON DOLEY
BIG WILLY QUIL
WU
JIHAD
GERALD C.P.P.
POOKIE C.P.P.
CUTONE H.A.C.
COCONUT STYFORLIFE
KAMAL PIERCY
KHALEEF BENJAMIN
RA-RA

Congratulations to Sadira Jones

MARTHA B. SMALL
SHAWN T. WALLACE
SHANA JONES
LINDA B. JONES
RAYMOND JONES
ADA B. SMALL
Kelly Williams
Dawn Smiley
Ginene Simpkins
Saniyyah T. Brown
Quadiryah Johnson
Donnell E. Keene
Diane Hermann
Brad Burnett
Julian Ford
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry M. Sanseverino
Kristie Bryant
Linda J. Vogel
Daliah Elhilaly
Andrew Jefferson

Jerome Payne



Jerome,
We know that you will have a prosperous future and we wish you the best.

Keep your head up, stick out your chest, and handle your business. We know nobody can hold you down, but you're the one who needs to know that, because with that attitude anything is possible. We know you had to struggle to get where you are and with what you have been through you can get through any obstacles in life. Take your dreams, make them a reality, and with friends and family you will never go wrong

With all our hearts,
Friends, Family and Companion



To Our Yearbook Staff
Even though we were never at full strength, we fulfilled our goal of producing the best yearbook for our class. We congratulate and thank you for working together, for coming to consensus on tricky issues and for writing and rewriting, for snapping picture. Our thanks also go out to non-staff students who contributed to our year-book's success.

Mrs. G. Barrington Jackson
Mrs. P. Eckstein

WORLD BEAT™

1996 1997

WORLD

NATIONAL





MUSIC





LIFESTYLE



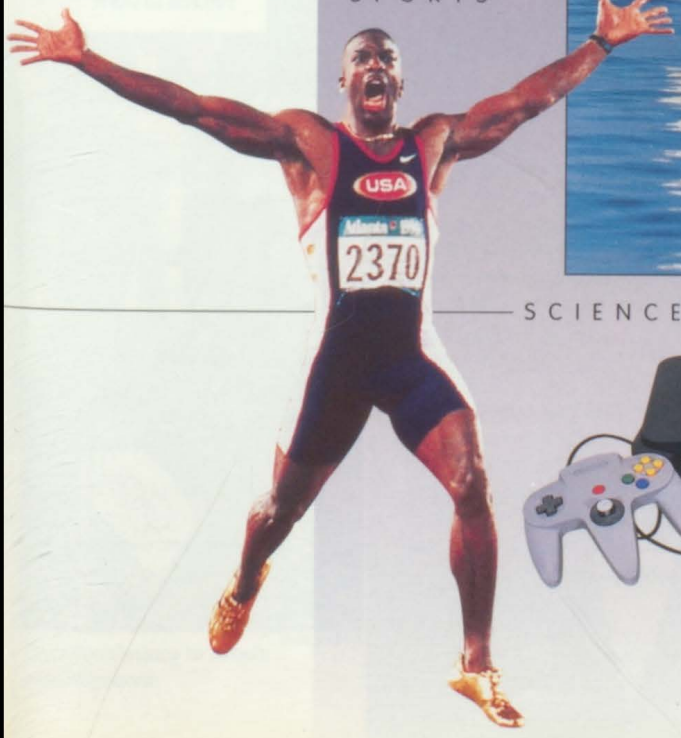






SPORTS

FACES



SCIENCE





ENTERTAINMENT

WORLD

flash

In November, a hijacked Ethiopian airliner crashes after running out of fuel. The crash occurs near a resort beach in the Comoros Islands in the Indian Ocean. At least 123 of the 175 people on board die, including the hijackers.

After 36 years, Central America's longest civil war ends when Indian rebels and military leftists sign a truce in Guatemala.

British Telecommunications agrees to purchase MCI Communications for up to $21 billion in November. The deal is the biggest foreign purchase of a U.S. company ever concluded.

A U.N.-negotiated treaty banning chemical weapons worldwide is set to take effect in the spring. The treaty prohibits the development, production, stockpiling or use of chemical weapons, and calls for the destruction of existing supplies. The treaty is signed by 160 nations, including the U.S.



AP/Wide World

Alija Izetbegovic, leader of Bosnia's Muslim Party of Democratic Action, is elected chairman of the country's new three-person presidency in September. The election is held in accordance with provisions of the U.S.-brokered Dayton peace agreement.

AP/Wide World



The Miss World beauty pageant, held in Bangalore, India in November, raises a storm of protests, some violent, including one by a group threatening to stage a mass suicide during the pageant's telecast. A new Miss World is crowned without incident.



Reuters/Archive Photos



Reuters/Archive Photos

King Hussein of Jordan (right) visits the West Bank of the Jordan River in October to show support for the Palestinian-Israeli peace talks and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. It is Hussein's first visit since Jordan lost the territory to Israel in the 1967 Arab-Israeli War.

Demonstrators gather in Toronto, Canada on October 25 to protest cutbacks in social services by the Ontario government. Thousands of people march through the city during "Metro Days of Action," organized by labor and social activists.



AP/Wide World



Reuters/Archive Photos

Russian President Boris Yeltsin wins reelection in July, despite persistent health problems. After successful heart surgery in November he returns to work.

A pipe bomb explodes in Centennial Olympic Park after the first day of competition at the Summer Olympics in Atlanta. Flags fly at half-mast to mourn the 1 person killed and more than 100 injured.

Pope John Paul II undergoes surgery for an inflamed appendix in October. His chief surgeon, Dr. Francesco Crucitti, announces that the 78-year-old leader of the Roman Catholic Church is free from "previously undiscovered serious ailments."



AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World

In a group so large it could be tracked by satellite, hundreds of thousands of refugees abandon camps in Zaire in November and begin a journey home to Rwanda, which they had fled to escape a civil war. Closing of the camps forces the refugees to flee.

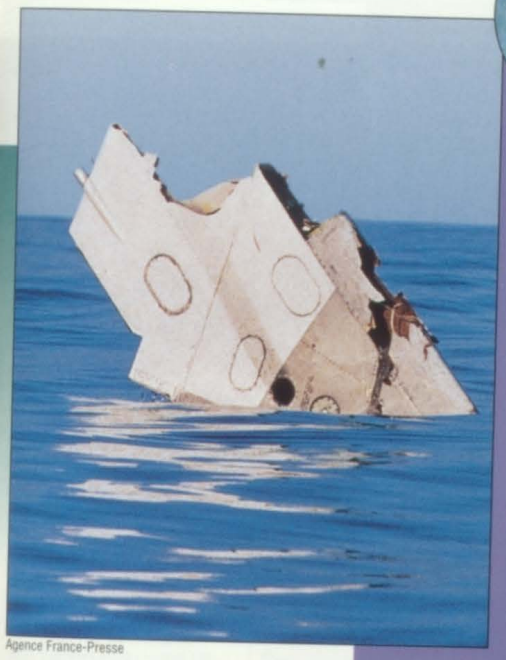


AP/Wide World

Mass graves containing the bodies of Muslims, allegedly murdered by Serbs in 1992 during the Bosnian civil war, are excavated in Bosnia-Herzegovina throughout the year as a shaky peace negotiated in 1995 continues.



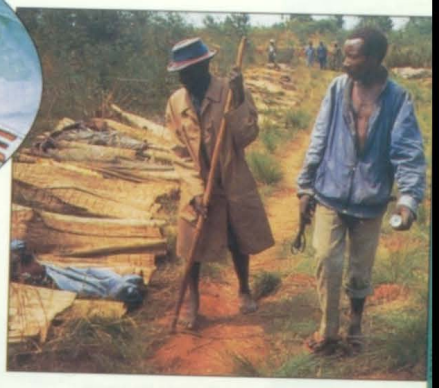
Reuters/Archive Photos



Agence France-Presse

On July 17, Trans World Airlines Flight 800 explodes 13,700 feet above the Atlantic Ocean, killing all 230 passengers and crew members. The Boeing 747-100 was en route to Paris from New York. The cause of the explosion remains a mystery.

Anti-American Saudi terrorists are blamed for a truck bomb that kills 19 U.S. service people on June 25 in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia. Mourners grieve at a memorial service held in Khobar, Saudi Arabia.



More than 300 Tutsi refugees in the African country of Burundi are slain by Hutus, a rival ethnic group. The covered bodies, mostly women and children, illustrate the ferocity of the conflict.



Reuters/Archive Photos

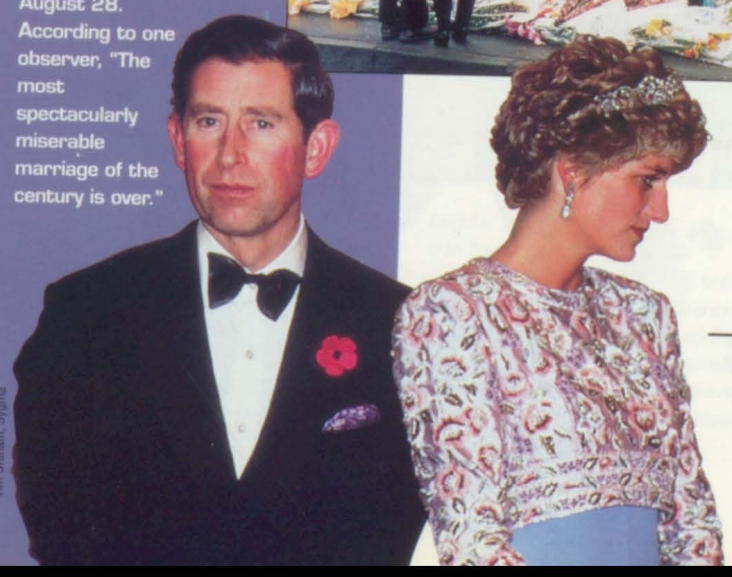
Israeli right-wing leader Benjamin Netanyahu wins the May 1996 election for Prime Minister, defeating Prime Minister Shimon Peres, whom many Israelis think is making too many concessions to Israel's Arab neighbors.

Prince Charles, heir to the British throne, and Diana, Princess of Wales, are divorced on August 28. According to one observer, "The most spectacularly miserable marriage of the century is over."



Tim Graham, Sygma

A lone gunman kills 16 kindergartners, their teacher, and then himself, at a Dunblane, Scotland school in March 1996. A month after the tragedy, officials tear down the school gymnasium in which the shootings occurred.



Tim Graham, Sygma

NATIONAL

flash

The U.S. Army issues strict new policies for drill instructors and female trainees, as hundreds of complaints of sexual harassment are revealed in November. Drill instructors are now required to leave their doors open if a female is inside, and women must travel in pairs.

After thousands of veterans complain of illnesses since the 1991 Persian Gulf War, the Pentagon warns they may have been exposed to chemical weapons. The Pentagon reveals that up to two tons of sarin nerve gas may have been released.

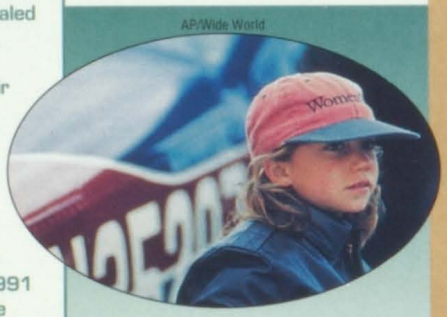
Six-year-old beauty pageant queen JonBenet Ramsey is found murdered in the basement of her parents' Colorado home the day after Christmas. Her death raises a nationwide awareness of controversial youth beauty pageants.

Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R-Georgia) is fined $300,000 in a bi-partisan vote after the House Ethics Committee's year-long investigation into alleged financial improprieties.



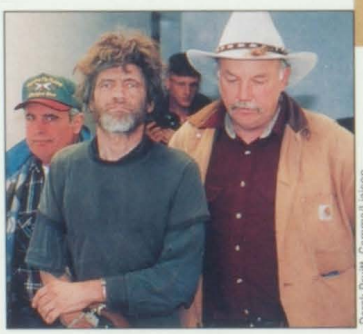
Reuters/Archive Photos

Former U.N. ambassador Madeleine Albright is nominated for Secretary of State by President Clinton on December 5. Confirmed in office in January 1997, Albright is the first woman to head the State Department.



AP/Wide World

Seven-year-old pilot Jessica Dubroff is killed when her Cessna airplane crashes shortly after take-off in bad weather from the Cheyenne, Wyoming airport. Her flying instructor and her father, the plane's two passengers, are also killed in the April 1996 crash.



Derek Pruitt, Gamma/Liaison

Theodore Kaczynski, alleged to be the "Unabomber," who killed 3 people and wounded more than 20 others with mail bombs since 1978, is arrested in Montana in April 1996. Information provided by Kaczynski's brother leads to the arrest.



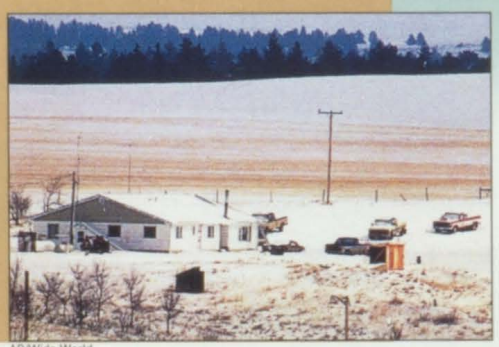
Robert Allison, Contact Press Images

Binti Jua, a gorilla at Chicago's Brookfield Zoo, becomes a hero when she rescues a 3-year-old boy knocked unconscious after falling 18 feet into the ape enclosure. The boy suffers brain contusions but soon recovers.

Arson against African-American churches, mostly in the South, is a serious problem in 1996, as hundreds of churches are burned down. Residents of Portland, Oregon survey the damage inside a church after a June fire.



AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World

One of the longest armed stand-offs in U.S. history occurs outside Jordan, Montana between the FBI and members of an anti-government group calling itself the Freemen. The 81-day siege ends peacefully in June.

On August 11, a boater rescues 10-year-old Taylor Touchstone from the snake- and alligator-infested waters of a Florida swamp 14 miles away from where he disappeared August 7. Although exhausted and badly scratched, the autistic boy recovers fully.



AP/Wide World



Reuters/Archive Photos

William Jefferson Clinton defeats Republican Bob Dole and Independent H. Ross Perot to become the 42nd president of the U.S. and the last president of the 20th century. Clinton is the first Democrat since Franklin Roosevelt to be reelected to a second term.



Jonathan Alcorn, Zuma

A civil jury finds former football star O.J. Simpson liable for the June 12, 1994 wrongful deaths of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, and her friend, Ronald Goldman. In a unanimous verdict, the jury awards $8.5 million in compensatory damages to Goldman's parents. The Brown and Goldman families are each awarded $12.5 million in punitive damages.



AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World

Days of abnormally heavy rains in November undermine the roadbed of Oregon's Interstate 5, creating a 40-foot-deep sinkhole, into which two semitrailer trucks tumble.

The Citadel, South Carolina's traditionally all-male military academy, admits four women, including Petra Loventinska (left) and Jeanie Montavlos. Montavlos and another female cadet later drop out, citing harassment and "sadistic" hazing.

Topsail Beach, a town on an island off the coast of North Carolina, is one of many Eastern locations hit hard by Hurricane Bertha in July. Six powerful hurricanes, all with winds over 110 miles per hour, made 1996 a near-record year doing $3.5 billion in damage in the U.S.

Nationwide, forest fires blacken more than twice the acreage lost to fires in an average year. California, Montana and Oregon are particularly hard hit.



Kurt Miller, The Press-Enterprise

All 110 people aboard a ValuJet DC-9 are killed in May 1996 when a fire breaks out in the cargo hold. The plane, en route from Miami to Atlanta, crashes and disappears almost completely into the Florida Everglades, making it difficult for workers to retrieve wreckage.



AP/Wide World



Schwarz, Gamma/Liaison

Security guard Richard Jewell is investigated as a suspect in the July Olympic Park bombing. After three months of media frenzy, during which Jewell is a virtual prisoner in his home, the U.S. Justice Department admits there is no evidence against him.

Six-year-old first-grader Johnathan Prevette is suspended from his Lexington, North Carolina elementary school for violating the city schools' sexual conduct guidelines—he kissed a female classmate. Prevette is quickly reinstated after a nationwide controversy over the suspension.



AP/Wide World

NATIONAL

SCIENCE



flash

A 9,300-year-old skeleton discovered in July near Richland, Washington is the oldest and most intact set of human bones ever discovered in North America. Research is suspended, however, as the tribes from the Native American grounds where it is found claim the skeleton as an ancestor and want the bones buried.

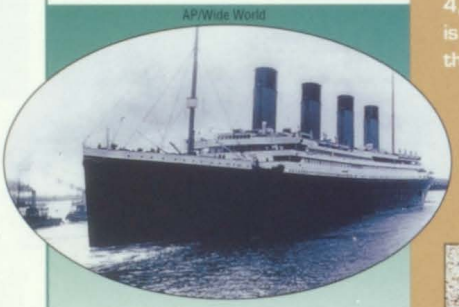
Trauma Seal, a new medical adhesive that is applied like a lip-balm stick, is in clinical trials at 10 hospitals and health care institutions nationwide. The biodegradable adhesive could eliminate stitches and return visits.

New York Police Department canines begin wearing three-pound, infrared cameras, scouting out potentially dangerous areas before police officers enter the scene. Handlers are developing bullet-proof vests for the dogs to wear.

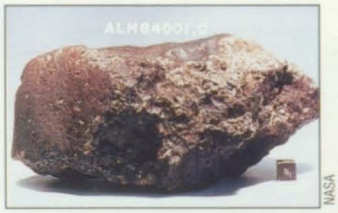
A new category of animal is discovered in the form of bacteria that live on the lips of lobsters. *Symbion pandora*, which lives on food scraps from lobster lips, is called "the zoological highlight of the decade."

Videogame giant Nintendo releases its long-awaited Nintendo 64, a new hardware system that draws players into the game and moves three times faster than any existing system.

AP/Wide World



An expedition to raise the *Titanic*, the legendary "unsinkable" ocean liner that sank on its maiden voyage in 1912, from its North Atlantic grave more than two miles deep, ends in failure in August due to rough seas.



NASA

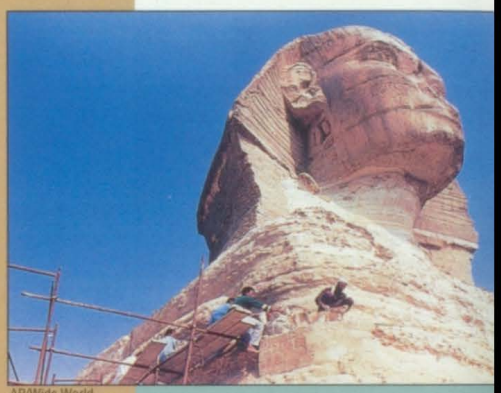
In August, scientists discover evidence of bacteria-like life on a meteorite found in 1984 and believed to be part of the crust of Mars 4.5 billion years ago. It is the first possible proof that life is not unique to Earth.



NASA

American astronaut Shannon Lucid (right) spends 188 days in space, breaking American space endurance records after joining the crew of the Russian space station *Mir*.

Egyptians begin work to preserve the Great Sphinx from the ravages of wind, pollution and time. The 4,500-year-old statue is located in Giza near the giant pyramids.



AP/Wide World



NASA

The Mars Surveyor Trolley, named Sojourner, is carried on-board *Mars Pathfinder*, an unmanned spacecraft launched in December. Sojourner, a free-roving probe the size of a child's wagon, will photograph the Martian surface and determine the composition of rocks on Mars.

Satellite dishes become one of the year's hottest-selling electronic consumer products. Owners find the savings of not paying for cable services cover the cost within a few months.

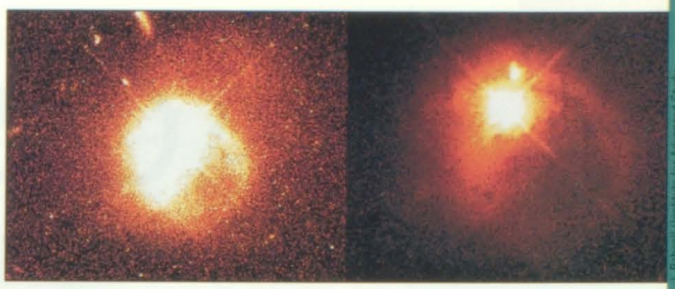


Echostar Communications Corp.



© 1996 Monterey Bay Aquarium, Photography by Randy Wilder

California's Monterey Bay Aquarium opens a new wing in March 1996. The million-gallon indoor ocean showcases the marine life of the outer reaches of Monterey Bay, 5 to 60 miles offshore.



J. Bahcall (Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton) and NASA

The Hubble Space Telescope captures new images of quasars, the universe's most powerful and baffling phenomena. Previously thought only to exist in colliding galaxies, new pictures indicate quasars can also exist in undisturbed galaxies—causing astronomers to revisit their theories.



AP/Wide World

Steam and ash from Iceland's Loki volcano blast 33,000 feet in the air on October 9. Molten rock from the volcano's 5-mile-wide fissure melts through more than 2,000 feet of glacial ice, threatening the island with widespread flooding.



O2 Spa Bar

An "oxygen bar" in Toronto, Canada allows patrons to pay $16 to spend 20 minutes breathing pure oxygen. The owners of the O_2 Spa Bar claim the treatment is a healthy way to reinvigorate the body and offer fruit "flavors" to liven up the experience.



Smithsonian Institution

The Smithsonian Institution celebrates the 150th anniversary of its founding with a nationwide tour of prize exhibits, including this stovepipe hat worn by Abraham Lincoln.



UPI/ Corbis-Bettmann

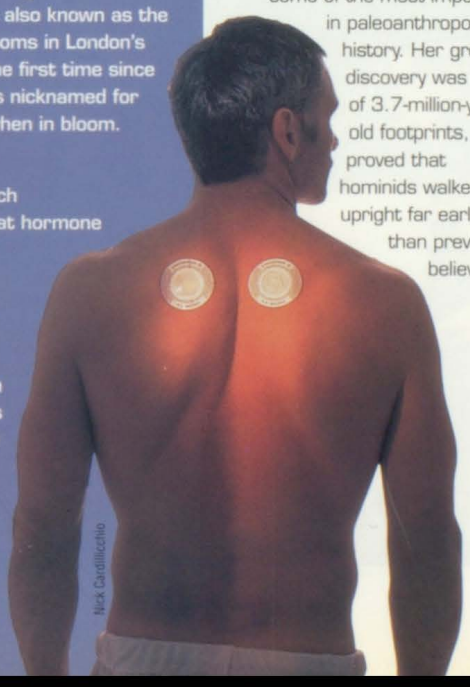
Paleoanthropologist Mary Leakey, shown with husband Louis Leakey in a 1959 photograph, dies in December. Discoveries by the Leakeys throughout their careers are some of the most important in paleoanthropological history. Her greatest discovery was a trail of 3.7-million-year-old footprints, which proved that hominids walked upright far earlier than previously believed.



AP/Wide World

The world's largest flower, the Titan Arum, also known as the "corpse flower," blooms in London's Kew Gardens for the first time since 1963. The flower is nicknamed for its strong stench when in bloom.

New research suggests that hormone therapies can keep middle-aged men stronger and more youthful. A testosterone-releasing skin patch called Androderm is prescribed by many doctors to supplement the natural hormone.



Nick Cardillicchio

SCIENCE

FACES

flash

Former NFL commissioner Pete Rozelle dies on December 6. Rozelle is credited with transforming professional football into America's top spectator sport, and with inventing the Super Bowl.

Basketball megastar Michael Jordan launches his own cologne: Michael Jordan Cologne. Demand for the fragrance is so high that manufacturer Bijan Fragrances limits sales to 12 bottles per customer.

The ever-present Cindy Crawford releases a book on applying make-up. *Basic Face* enjoys a long run on the best-seller lists.

The National Women's Hall of Fame opens in Seneca Falls, New York, inducting 11 women, including author Louisa May Alcott, and Oveta Culp Hobby, the nation's first female colonel.

Archbishop of Chicago, Cardinal Joseph Bernardin dies of pancreatic cancer in November. Bernardin was known for being a reconciler in churches torn between tradition and modern culture, as well as for speaking out against physician-assisted suicide.



Steven M. Falk, Gamma-Liaison

Mother Teresa, 1979 Nobel Peace Prize winner, suffers a heart attack in late December. It is the 86-year-old Roman Catholic nun's fourth serious illness in 1996.



AP/Wide World

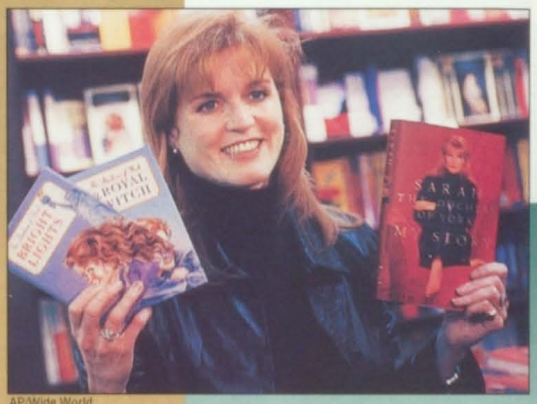
"The Late Show" host David Letterman (right), who had been hinting at retirement, re-signs his contract with CBS, keeping him at "The Late Show" through 2002.



AP/Wide World

In April 1996, singer Michael Jackson is seen escorting a woman later identified as Debbie Rowe, an employee of Jackson's plastic surgeon. In November, Jackson announces that he and Rowe are married and that she is carrying his child.

Sarah Ferguson, Duchess of York, and Prince Andrew, Duke of York and son of Great Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, are divorced in May 1996. "Fergie" subsequently goes public with TV appearances and an autobiography.



AP/Wide World



AP/Wide World

Regis Philbin appears with host Rosie O'Donnell on ABC's "The Rosie O'Donnell Show." The talk show, which premieres in 1996, gains quick popularity and respect.



Steve Granitz, Retna

Music megastar Madonna gives birth to Lourdes Maria Ciccone Leon, a 6-pound, 9-ounce girl, on October 14. Madonna's big year continues when she wins a Golden Globe for her role in Andrew Lloyd Webber's on-screen rendition of the musical *Evita*.

In October, TV talk-show host Jenny Jones testifies during the Michigan murder trial of Jonathan Schmitz. Schmitz was accused of killing Scott Amedure, who revealed romantic feelings for Schmitz during a March 1995 taping of a "Jenny Jones Show."



AP/Wide World



Stephane Cardinale, Sygma

In a small, secret ceremony on an island off the coast of Georgia, John F. Kennedy Jr. marries Carolyn Bessette, a Calvin Klein publicist, in September. Kennedy, who dated Bessette for two years, had long been considered one of the world's most eligible bachelors.



AP/Wide World

New York Yankees fan Jeffrey Maier interferes with a fly ball during game one of the American League Championship Series on October 9. The hit is ruled a home run, tying the game 4 to 4 in the eighth inning and making Maier New York's hero for a day.



John F. Kennedy Library

More than 4,000 items owned by former First Lady Jacquelyn Kennedy Onassis and President John F. Kennedy are auctioned off in April 1996, including a necklace of simulated pearls shown in this 1962 photograph. The fake pearls, valued at $500 to $700, sell for $211,500, bringing the auction total to $34.5 million.



AP/Wide World

Legendary heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali is the final athlete to bear the Olympic torch, lighting the Olympic flame at the opening of the Centennial Summer Olympics in Atlanta on July 19.



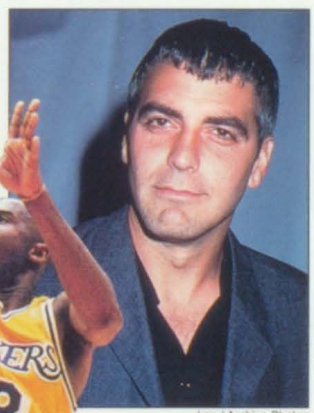
AP/Wide World

Veteran comedian George Burns dies in March 1996, just weeks after reaching the age of 100. The legendary Burns won an Oscar, an Emmy and a Grammy Award in an illustrious career dating back to vaudeville.



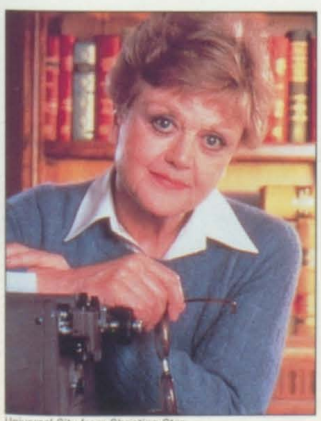
Reuters/Archive Photos

Miss Kansas, Tara Dawn Holland, is crowned Miss America at the 1996 pageant on September 14.



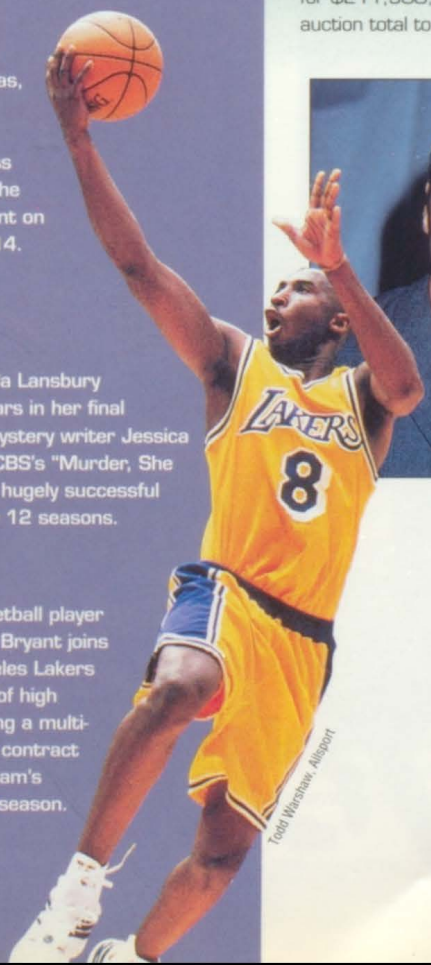
Lee / Archive Photos

As a stand against the invasion of his privacy, George Clooney, star of NBC's "ER," boycotts Paramount's "Entertainment Tonight" after its sister show "Hard Copy" runs unauthorized footage of the actor's private life.



Universal City from Shooting Star

Angela Lansbury appears in her final season as mystery writer Jessica Fletcher on CBS's "Murder, She Wrote." The hugely successful show ran for 12 seasons.



Todd Warshaw, Allsport

Basketball player Kobe Bryant joins the Los Angeles Lakers straight out of high school, signing a multi-million dollar contract during the team's 1996-1997 season.

FACES

ENTERTAINMENT

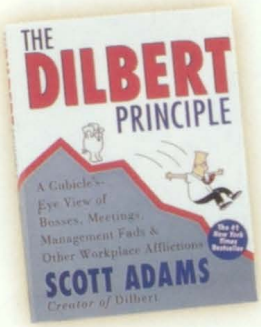
flash

Tom Cruise stars in *Jerry Maguire*, a romantic comedy about a sports agent who decides to change his shallow ways, and spends the rest of the movie trying to regain his success. It is a breakthrough role for Cruise, who is normally depicted as a cocky winner.

To honor the 20th anniversary of its release, producer George Lucas issues a "remade" *Star Wars*, with new scenes, computerized special effects and souped-up animation. Lucas' grand plan calls for a nine-film cycle, including prequels.

English actor/director Kenneth Branagh plays Hamlet in his star-studded remake of Shakespeare's classic. Despite running four hours, the movie is a critical and box-office success.

NBC's Thursday night drama "ER" features television's first HIV-positive prominent character. Jeanie Boulet, a physician's assistant played by Gloria Reuben, is relatively open about her condition and helps confront the stigma of AIDS.

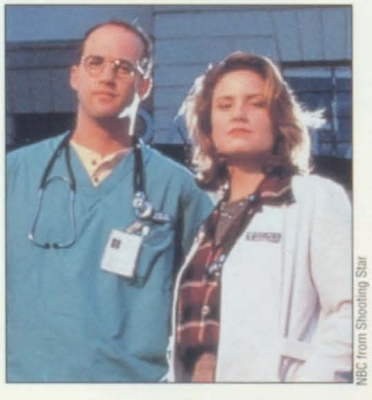


Scott Adams' *Dilbert*, the comic strip about office politics, captures the nation's imagination. In book form, *The Dilbert Principle* becomes a national best-seller.



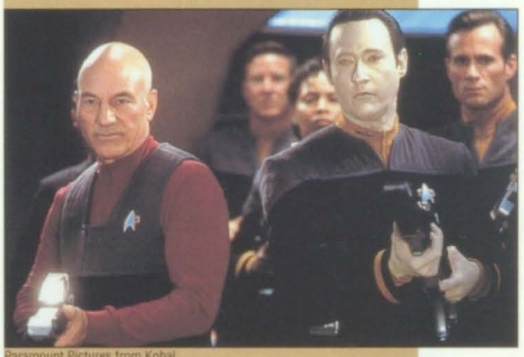
20th Century Fox from Shooting Star

Actors Winona Ryder and Daniel Day-Lewis star in *The Crucible*, which opens in December. The screen adaption of Arthur Miller's famous play about the Salem witch trials is written by Arthur Miller himself.



NBC from Shooting Star

Sherry Stringfield, Dr. Susan Lewis on NBC's "ER," leaves the show at the peak of her character's popularity. In her final episode, when Dr. Mark Greene, played by Anthony Edwards, declares his love for Susan, the show garners its highest ratings ever.



Paramount Pictures from Kobal

Patrick Stewart (left) and Brent Spiner (right) star in *Star Trek: First Contact*, a movie featuring characters from the TV show "Star Trek: The Next Generation."

Drew Carey (left) finds TV stardom during the second season of ABC's "The Drew Carey Show," a zany sit-com about working-class characters in Cleveland, Ohio.



Warner Bros. TV from Shooting Star



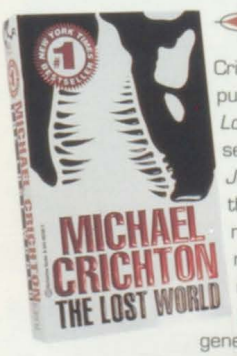
20th Century Fox from Shooting Star

Academy Award-winning actor Tom Hanks' first effort at directing receives critical praise when *That Thing You Do!*, a movie about the meteoric rise and fall of a 1960s rock band, opens in October.

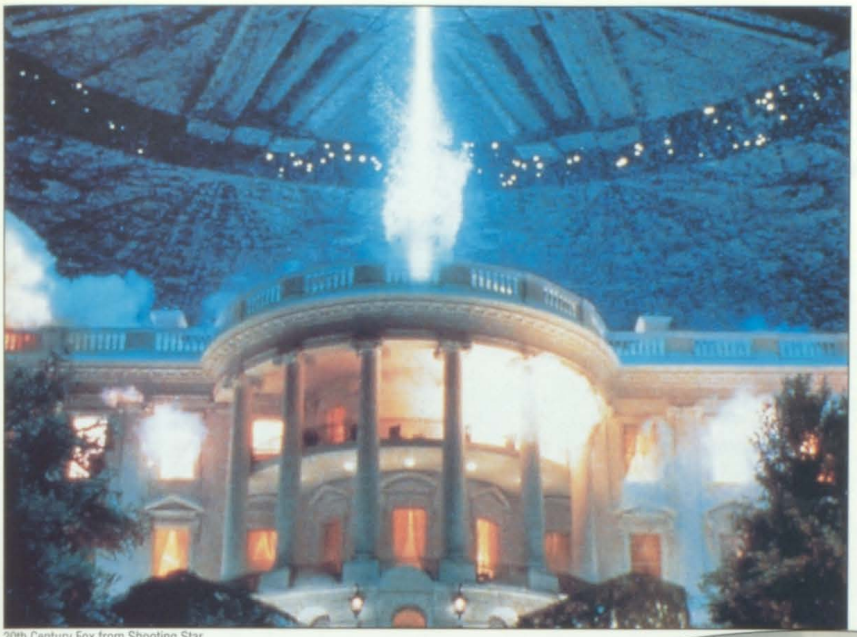
Model Brooke Shields (center) moves to television in NBC's "Suddenly Susan," a sit-com premiering in September. Shields plays a columnist opposite magazine editor Judd Nelson (far right).



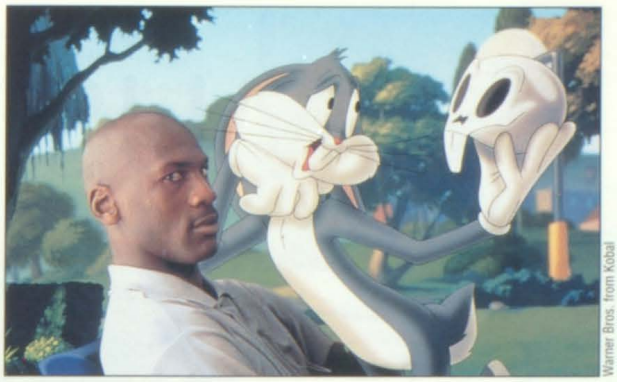
NBC from Shooting Star



Author Michael Crichton publishes *The Lost World*, a sequel to *Jurassic Park*, the colossal novel and movie. The new book promises to generate just as much hype, with a movie already in the works.



20th Century Fox from Shooting Star



Warner Bros. from Kobal

Explosive special effects rivet audiences to their seats as they watch *Independence Day*, one of summer's blockbuster movies.

Bugs Bunny and Chicago Bulls basketball star Michael Jordan share top billing in *Space Jam*, a partially animated feature film that opens in late November.



20th Century Fox from Shooting Star



Paramount from Shooting Star



NBC from Shooting Star

In September, Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes star as the classic star-crossed lovers in the film *Romeo and Juliet*.

Tom Cruise stars in *Mission: Impossible*, based on the 1960s and '70s television series of the same name. Despite critical put-downs, the movie is a huge box-office hit.

John Lithgow (front right) earns both an Emmy and a Golden Globe Award for Best Actor in a Comedy Series in NBC's "3rd Rock From the Sun," a sit-com about a family of aliens living in contemporary America.

Actors Brad Pitt (left) and Jason Patric star in *Sleepers*, a film about four men and their extraordinary scheme to revenge the abuse they experienced as boys. The controversial movie also stars Dustin Hoffman, Robert De Niro and Kevin Bacon.



Warner Bros. from Kobal



CBS from Shooting Star

America's favorite sit-com father, Bill Cosby, enjoys the success of his new CBS show, "Cosby." In January 1997, however, tragedy strikes as Cosby's son Ennis is killed in Los Angeles in an apparent random robbery.



Ron Batzdorff from Shooting Star

Michael J. Fox returns to television in September as a deputy mayor in ABC's "Spin City," a sit-com about the inner workings of New York's City Hall.



Dream Works SKG from Shooting Star

Stars Bill Paxton and Helen Hunt flee a tornado of awesome proportions in *Twister*, another summer blockbuster, which tells the story of storm chasers highly devoted to studying the inner workings of tornadoes.

ENTERTAINMENT

MUSIC

flash

Folk and blues artist Tracy Chapman returns to the scene in 1996 with the single "Give Me One Reason." Chapman receives five Grammy nominations in January 1997.

The artist formerly known as Prince releases *Emancipation*, a three-hour, three-CD album, in honor of his release from his Warner Bros. recording contract.

Guitarist Slash of Guns N' Roses forms his own band. His new group, Slash's Blues Ball, is a six-man blues band grounded in the blues-based hard rock of the 1970s.

Rocker Sheryl Crow joins the ranks of musicians who have had their albums banned from Wal-Mart. The retail giant objects to a lyric alleging that kids kill each other with guns they obtained from the store.



The Beatles' *Anthology 3*, the third and final album from the reunited remaining members of the band, is released in November. Following the example of their two previous anthologies, *Anthology 3* sells in record numbers.



Kipa, LGI

British pop superstars Liam (left) and Noel Gallagher cancel the remainder of a U.S. concert tour in September amid rumors that their band, Oasis, is breaking up. Denying the reports, the brothers announce they will release a new album in the summer of 1997.

Alternative-rock band Nirvana releases a new album, *From the Muddy Banks of the Wishkah*, in October. The album contains 17 live tracks recorded between 1989 and the 1994 suicide of singer Kurt Cobain (right).



Jane Huntington, LGI

Bush, a British rock group with an American "grunge" sound, tours the U.S. to promote their album *Sixteen Stone*. They release another chart-topping album, *Razorblade Suitcase*, in the winter.

Gary Malerba, LGI



Kiss bass guitarist Gene Simmons strikes a familiar pose as the band kicks off a reunion tour with a June 28 concert in Detroit. The tour marks the first time the original members of the band perform together since 1979.



Steve Jennings, LGI



Tim Mosenfelder, LGI

Canadian pop artist Celine Dion tops the charts in 1996 with the album *Falling Into You*, which sells more than 16 million copies worldwide.



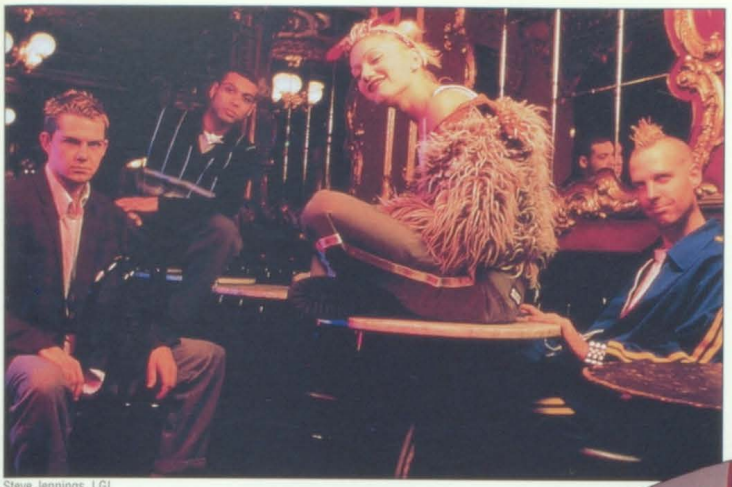
Reuters/Archive Photos

After 10 years of separation, members of the band Van Halen are reunited with their former lead singer, David Lee Roth (right), at the MTV Video Music Awards in September. Roth later claims he thought he was rejoining the band, who chose a different lead singer.



Steve Jennings, LGI

Heavy metal band Metallica is the headlining act for the summer concert Lollapalooza, traditionally an alternative-rock show. Metallica remains high-profile, winning an MTV award for the year's Best Hard Rock Video in September.



Steve Jennings, LGI

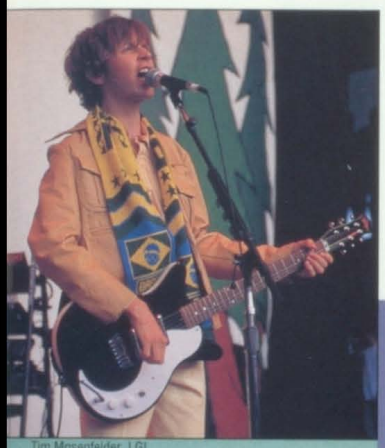
No Doubt, fronted by lead singer Gwen Stefani, releases *Tragic Kingdom*, which includes such chart-toppers as "Just a Girl," "Spiderwebs," and "Don't Speak."

Counting Crows' second album, *Recovering the Satellites*, is released in October. The long awaited follow-up to 1993's *August and Everything After* debuts at number one on the charts.



Adele Starr, LGI

George Strait is honored by the Country Music Association in October with three major awards—Single of the Year for "Check Yes or No," Album of the Year for *Clear Blue Sky*, and Male Vocalist of the Year.



Tim Mosenfelder, LGI

The hit single "Where It's At" kicks off the new Beck album *Odelay*, which is released to popular and critical acclaim. *Spin* magazine awards Beck Artist of the Year.



Mike Hashimoto/NGI from LGI



Lisa Leone, LGI

Toni Braxton's second album, *Secrets*, is released in summer 1996. Braxton wins R&B Single of the Year for "Let It Flow" at the *Billboard* Music Awards in the fall.



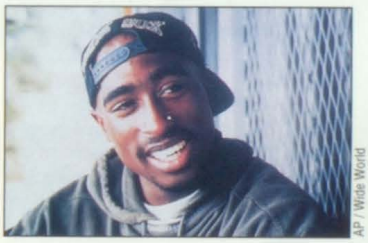
Neal Preston, Retna



Adele Starr, LGI

Death Row Records co-founder Dr. Dre, often dubbed the "godfather of 'gangsta' rap," begins distancing himself from hard-core rap. "Been There, Done That," his break-away anthem, premieres on MTV in September.

Fourteen-year-old singing sensation LeAnn Rimes is nominated for the Country Music Association's Horizon Award after the breakthrough success of her single "Blue." The popular new star is often compared to country music legend Patsy Cline.



AP / Wide World

The music world is stunned in September by the death of rapper Tupac Shakur, killed in a drive-by shooting in Las Vegas. Speculations as to the killer's motive abound, but the year ends with no answers and no arrests.



Reuters/Archive Photos

Alanis Morissette's *Jagged Little Pill* reigns the charts, becoming the all-time top-selling album by a female artist. Morissette also dominates the 1996 Grammys by winning four awards, including Best Album.

R.E.M.'s 12th album, *New Adventures in Hi-Fi*, the group's first recording since 1994's *Monster*, is released by Warner Bros. in September.

The Wallflowers, with Jakob Dylan, son of legendary folk artist Bob Dylan, release *Bringing Down the Horse*, which features hit singles "One Headlight" and "6th Avenue Heartache."



James L. Lance, LGI



Beck, LGI

SPORTS

flash

Tennis pro Pete Sampras wins the eighth grand-slam title of his career at the U.S. Open in September. Steffi Graf wins the U.S. Open Women's title, beating Monica Seles.

Pro boxer Mike Tyson loses his Heavyweight Champion of the World title to Evander Holyfield in a November match. Holyfield, a former two-time world champion, reclaims his title in the surprise win.

Chicago Bulls star Dennis Rodman furthers his controversial reputation by kicking a photographer in the groin during a game against the Minnesota Timberwolves in January 1997. Rodman is suspended for up to 11 games without pay, costing him more than $1 million, in addition to a $25,000 fine to the NBA, as well as a reported $200,000 settlement with the photographer.

Baltimore Orioles second baseman Roberto Alomar is suspended for five games, deferred to the 1997 season, when he spits on an umpire during a heated argument over a questionable call in the National League play-offs. Controversy ensues over the leniency of the punishment.



Canapress

Team USA wins the World Cup of Hockey, beating Canada 5-2 in the final. Eight teams from Canada, Europe and the U.S. participate in the World Cup, which replaced the Canada Cup.



Al Bello, Allsport

The New York Yankees win the World Series, beating the Atlanta Braves in a four-game sweep, after losing the first two games. It is the first series title for the Yankees since 1978.



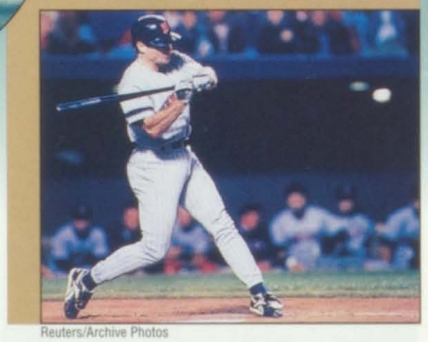
AP/Wide World

Twenty-year-old golfing phenom Eldrick "Tiger" Woods turns pro in August, making the transition from exceptional amateur golfer to well-endorsed professional, including a deal with Nike worth an estimated $40 million.

In June, the Colorado Avalanche beat the Florida Panthers in the NHL Stanley Cup play-offs. The final game in the series remains scoreless until 1:05 a.m., when the Avalanche finally score the winning goal in the third overtime period.

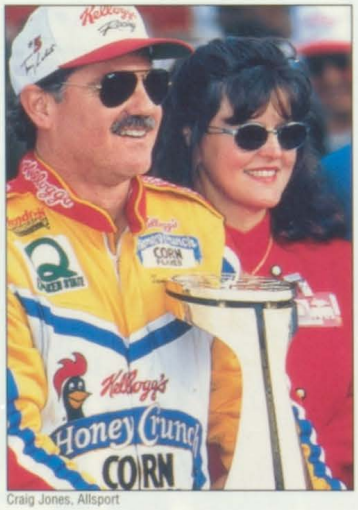


Al Bello, Allsport



Reuters/Archive Photos

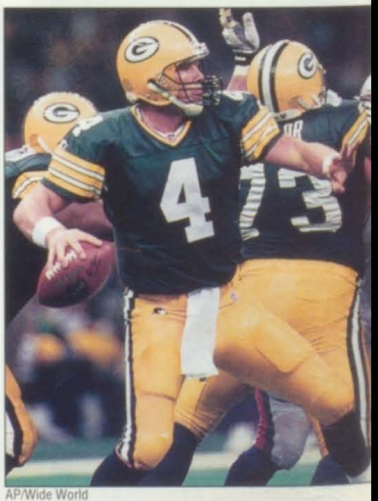
Paul Molitor of the Minnesota Twins becomes the 21st player in major league history to reach 3,000 career hits. The milestone is reached in September, when Molitor triples against Kansas City Royals rookie pitcher Jose Rosado.



Craig Jones, Allsport

Race car driver Terry Labonte wins NASCAR's Winston Cup championship with a total of 4,657 points after finishing fifth in the final race, the Napa 500, at the Atlanta Motor Speedway.

Led by quarterback Brett Favre, the Green Bay Packers beat the New England Patriots 35-21 in Super Bowl XXXI at the Louisiana Superdome. It is the Packers' first Super Bowl since 1968.



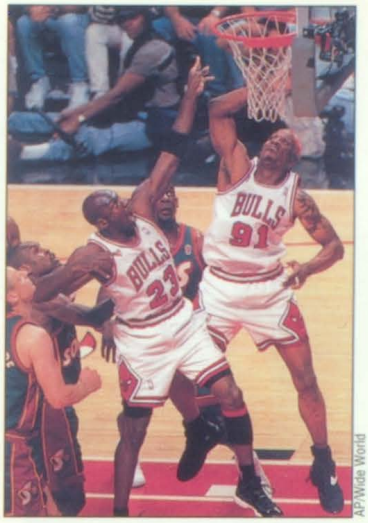
AP/Wide World



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The U.S. women's gymnastics team takes the gold at the Summer Olympics. Kerri Strug, second from right, is the heroine of the competition, landing her final vault despite a dislocated left ankle.

U.S. swimmer Amy Van Dyken wins the women's 100-meter butterfly event at the Olympic Games with a time of 59.13 seconds. Van Dyken wins a total of four golds.



AP/Wide World

The Chicago Bulls win their fourth NBA championship in six years as they defeat the Seattle SuperSonics in game six of the NBA finals on June 16.



AP/Wide World



Al Bello, Allsport

U.S. Olympian Dan O'Brien racks up 8,824 points to take the gold medal in the decathlon, a grueling, 10-event track-and-field competition.

April 1996 marks the 100th running of the Boston Marathon. More than 38,000 contenders participate.



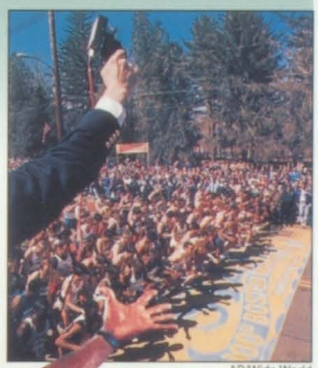
AP/Wide World

Jean Driscoll (front right) of the U.S. takes the silver in the women's 800-meter wheelchair race, a demonstration sport, at the Summer Olympics. Driscoll, seven-time winner of the Boston Marathon, retires at the end of 1996, after setting several world records during her career.

Olympic swimmer Tom Dolan captures another gold for the U.S. as he wins the 400-meter individual medley on July 21. Dolan wins with a time of 4:14.90.



Al Bello, Allsport

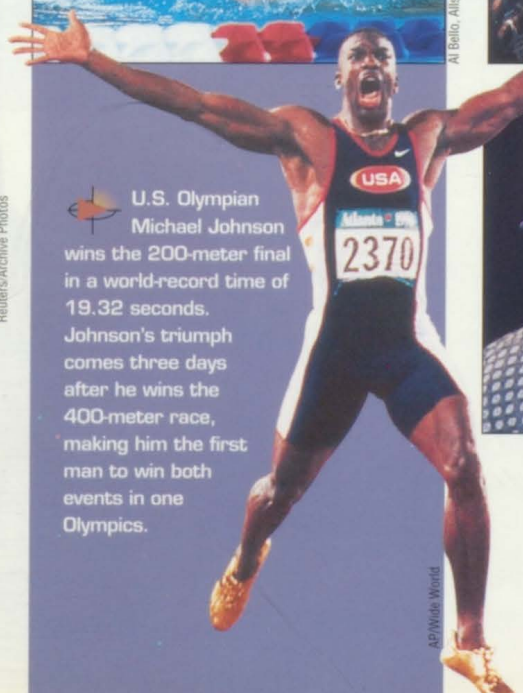


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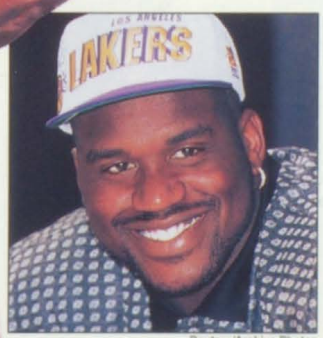
Reuters/Archive Photos

Minnesota Twins star centerfielder Kirby Puckett announces his retirement from baseball in July. A serious eye ailment forces Puckett to give up the game, but he manages to maintain his upbeat attitude at press conferences and interviews.



AP/Wide World

U.S. Olympian Michael Johnson wins the 200-meter final in a world-record time of 19.32 seconds. Johnson's triumph comes three days after he wins the 400-meter race, making him the first man to win both events in one Olympics.



Reuters/Archive Photos

Basketball star Shaquille O'Neal jumps from the Orlando Magic to the Los Angeles Lakers in July. The deal is the richest in NBA history, paying O'Neal $120 million over 7 years.

SPORTS

LIFESTYLE

flash

Helping consumers maintain privacy, marketers promote home AIDS tests. Consumers draw their own blood and then send it away to be tested confidentially.

Advancing technology means more options on telephones, including Caller ID, which becomes more common than ever in 1996. The display unit allows people to see the name and number of their caller before even answering the phone.

Authors Ellen Fein and Sherrie Schneider release *The Rules*, a controversial manual teaching women strategies for getting a man to propose marriage. While the book draws criticism from both sexes, it is a best-seller.

The U.S. Postal Service issues stamps commemorating Hanukkah, the first non-Christian religious holiday ever featured on a stamp.

Casual Fridays become more and more widespread in American work culture. Businesses allow employees who normally dress in professional clothing at work to wear more comfortable, casual clothing on Fridays.

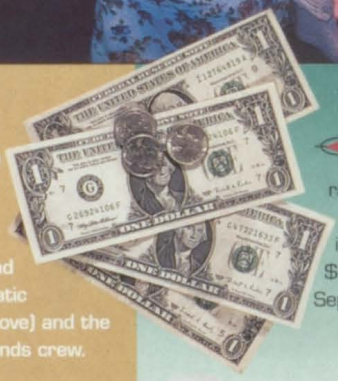


A "Sesame Street" stuffed toy causes panic among holiday shoppers. Tickle Me Elmo sells out in stores nationwide, and has shoppers fighting over scarce inventory and paying hundreds of times the toy's value.



Monica Almeida, NYT Pictures

The ongoing dance craze is the "Macarena," a Latin line dance. People of all ages participate in the dance, including Olympians, delegates and workers of the Democratic National Convention (above) and the New York Yankees grounds crew.



The minimum wage is raised to $4.75 in October, and will increase again to $5.15, effective September 1, 1997.

My Twinn Doll Company



The My Twinn Doll Company offers individually crafted dolls that replicate, from a photo, the eye color, hair and facial features of a living girl. Each doll comes with two matching outfits, one for the doll and one for the owner.



Nail polish colors get darker and funkier. Deep browns and blues are popular forms of expression and style.



The beverage industry introduces a new concept—bottled water with caffeine! One bottle of the uncarbonated water contains as much caffeine as one cup of coffee.

Disney's *101 Dalmatians* inspires an avalanche of promotional merchandise, filling stores with spotted toys, backpacks, games and other odds and ends.



WORLD BOOK ENCYCLOPEDIA, INC.
A SCOTT FETZER COMPANY

JOSTENS®

Kenneshia Simmons

Dedicated to My Daughter
Kenneshia Simmons
From Mom





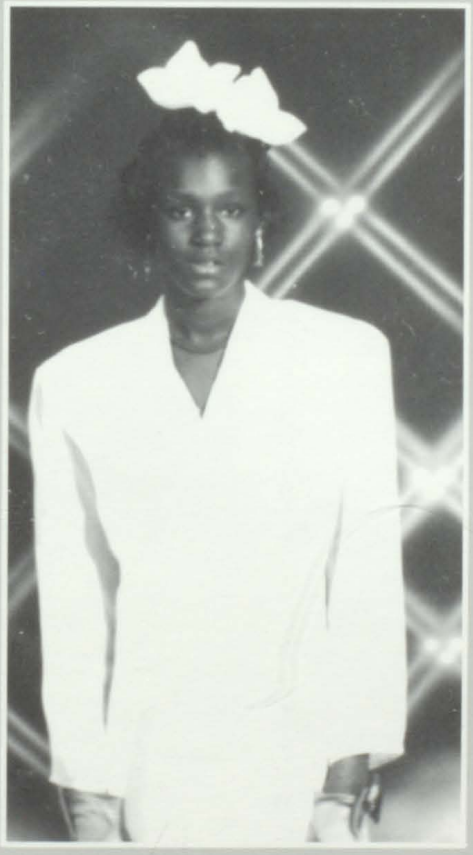
The Way God Sees Kenneshia

Kind Heart that often reflects the outside, if you listen carefully to see what's on her mind.

Essence of beauty to God's nostrils, while others might think she's crazy, but she has very good sense.

Nuance Turns red when pushed, Green when over looked, Black and Blue are what others have felt when she backed in the corner once.





Nubian Princess with a beautiful face, brown almond-shaped eyes, tall sculptured body from beginning to end.

Evangelical Named the "Rose of Sharon Baptist" where she sings in the youth choir and has an interest in Biblical principals.

Silently Kept are her feelings of pain, waiting patiently to be set free.

Harmony "Can't live without you" is the song she leads.



Improving not what she used to be, not what she should be, and with Jesus's help, will be where He wants her to be to earn her wings.

Athlete Playing basketball with a fast-paced jump shot, while swiftly moving her feet.

You are my Pride and Joy
M.J.S. 1/29/97

Pride And Joy

CLASS OF 1997

Hajar Abdus-Sabuur

Hajar (Hagar),
Your name describes who you are - a young woman with a mission to survive and to lead. In spite of the difficulties, you have always been positive and full of life. I appreciate your humor and thank Allah for blessing us with you. We love you dearly. Remember to guard your blessings well.

Love
Ummi and Family



Sha'Kira Bobbitt

To Sha'Kira:
"Nothing is more beautiful than the love that has weathered the storms of life."
I am very proud of you.
I Love You.

Mom



Tanisha Anderson

Tanisha,
We have watched you grow into a beautiful young lady who we will always be proud of. Good Luck to you in all your endeavors.
Tanisha, you will always be very special to us.

Love You Always
Mom and Dad



Akilah Bowden

Congratulations, Akilah, on receiving your high school diploma. This is quite an accomplishment. We are very proud of you. Whatever you seek to undertake in the future, we know you will be successful.
Love and Best wishes.

Your family,
The Bowdens.



Kelli Sheran Bell

As we reflect back over the good ole days, when you were our little cupcake, we remember how active, alert and cheerful you were. We knew then that you were going to be someone special. Watching you grow physically, mentally and spiritually makes us proud. Seeing you actively involved in worth while activities also makes us proud. Accepting Christ in your life, always remembering to put Him first in all you do will surely give you the strength and guidance that you will need to cope with today's obstacles. Set your goals and follow them through. Congratulations!

We Love You.
Mom and Dad.



La'Tesha Curry

To Tunafish,
May you have a bright and prosperous future. Good Luck.

Love,
Mommy
Tasha
Jean-Marie
Grandma & Papa



De'Janee' Dillard

Believe in Yourself
Your Talents, Your Abilities
You Will Succeed.

We Love You,
Mom, Dad and Justen



Tia Jackson

Tia
Congratulations!
Always remember through Christ you can do all things



Siddeeqah Duncan

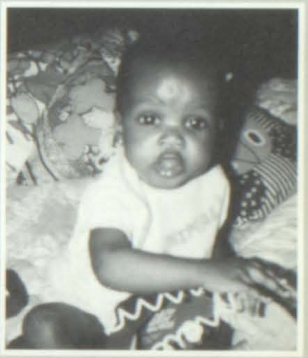
Dee,
Believe the impossible, look for the invisible, reach for the untouchable and achieve all goals to reach your dreams. If nothing else we have said in all our years of preaching, remember that we love you and Grandma's shining down on you from heaven.

Congratulations!
Love, Mommy



Sadira Raylin Jones

Sadira Raylin Jones, born 6:47 am Monday October 22, 1979. I remember it as vividly as if it was yesterday. A very special time in my life, "you just had to be there!" Mommy's baby. Everybody was so excited. Yesterday (in this picture) you were 7 months old, today you are 17 years old. Raylin make a Giant Mark in life. Let God be your guide. I pray that you are as successful as you want to be. Life is only what you make it, be persistent (as you are). Make yourself Proud!
1997 is your year - You Go Girl
Raylin - I love you very much!
Your Mom, Your friend Your Confident, Your other Conscience!



Qiana Hart

On December 12, 1979
We celebrated the birth
Of our beautiful baby girl,
whom we named
Qiana Shakiyah Hart "Missy."
Now 17 years later, we are celebrating yet another joyous occasion, her graduation.
Congratulations, Missy!

Love
Mom and Dad



Tiqua Knight

Tiqua,
Talked, Talked and is still Talking!
And that's why I love you so much. I wish you the best of luck in the future.

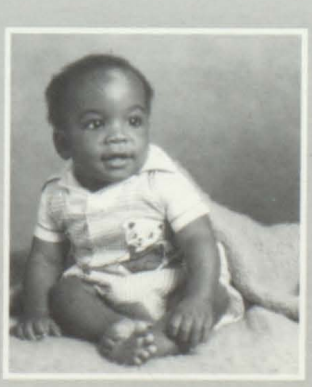
Love always & forever,
Mommy



Haile Henry

Haile,
You are a handsome, strong, and intelligent black man. I am so proud of you. Always remember, you are the Keeper of your Castle, and the master of your destiny. Everything you will ever need to succeed is within you.
We all love you (noise)

Mom and Family



Charles Marchan

Charles,
You have grown up before our eyes. We know that sometimes you think we are being unreasonable, when we encourage you to read and develop the love for learning. Its graduation time and there is a new world ahead of you. Continue to perform and make that uncommon performance look commonplace.

Love,
Mom and Dad



Asia McMillan

To Asia,
You have overcome many obstacles. Only the strong survive, and you will survive.
We are proud of you.

Congratulations
Dad and Family



Jennifer Rooks

To My Only Daughter, Jennifer-Marie,
I've watched you grow from ponytails to perms, from footed pajamas to prom dresses and from playing with toy cars to achieving your own. I've learned so much about being a parent, being a friend. Love and Life
Thanks for the Memories.

Love,
Beulah Martin, Your Mommy



Melinda Murphy

Melinda,
From the day you were born you were the love and joy of your grandfather and my life. You kept us alert and full of life. I know if he were here now, together we would say Mo-Mo work hard, make something out of your self and don't forget to put God in your life first.

Your Mom
Alluitha Murphy



Vincente Rosa

En tu ninez fuistes un niño tronquilo. Has sido siempre un buen hijo.
Te deseo todo log mejor en el futuro que y prosperes.

Tu Mami, que te quiere.



Jlaja Podier

Jlaja has been my pride since she was born. She has also been my special Valentine present. Jlaja, I love you very much. May God continue to bless you.

Love
Mom



Danille Vernon

Dear Dan,
This is a part of the moment that I have dreamed of. You have made me very proud of you. Continue travelling in the right path and you can accomplish anything you want.

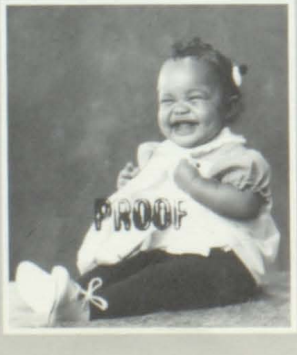
Love,
Mommy



Qiana Robinson

To my daughter Qiana, best wishes and much happiness for the future. I know the road seems hard but you hold all the cards. Our stay on Earth is brief so enjoy. Aim for stars and seek the truth, you'll rise above all the myths and goofs. Never let fear and doubt enter your mind this way you'll never become blind. I'm proud of you and I love you very much.
This is *your* beginning. Don't stop for anything; you must move on .
Give thanks to God and trust Him with all your heart, the Lord will never part. My prayers and thoughts are with you. You are close to my heart. Qiana, you are a lovely bright and shiny star. You will go very far.

Love always, Your Mom, Sheila



Sahkeenah Wallace

To our Daughter Sahkeenah,
May God Bless you, throughout your endeavors. This is just a stepping stone to your future goals, you're on your way and remember that we'll always be there for you.

Love You Always,
Your Mom and Dad
97



Qiana Hart



Congratulations,
"Missy"
Love,
Grandma and
Grandpa

❖❖❖❖❖❖❖

Congratulations,
on your day!
Love,
Ever Ready Church

Nikkia Neal



You are the light of the world. Let your light so shine before men that they may see your goodworks and glorify your Father in heaven. (Matthew 5:14-16)
Keep smiling, keep singing shining, keep dancing. We love you and we are proud of you. May God continue to Bless you.



Love
Mom, Dad and the Rest of the Clan.

My Best Wishes and Congratulations to the Class of 1997, and a Special Goodbye to the Senior Chorus Members

Ms. Jacqueline James

Congratulations Tiqua Knight



May God continue to Bless you. We love you very much!

Love,
Grandma & GranddaddDy
Henderson

I am very proud of you. Keep up the good work in College.

Love,
Daddy

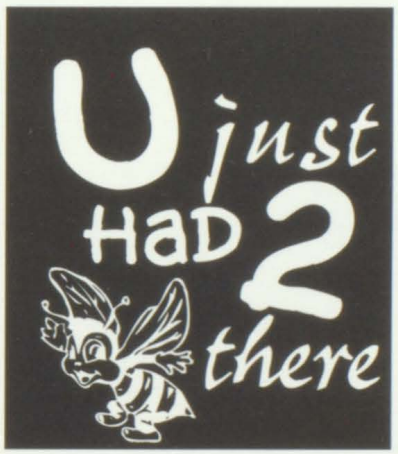


We are very proud of you and wish you the best of luck in the future!

Love, Aunt Sheila & Tyshiff

You are very special to me. I know you will make the best choices in life.

Love,
Aunt LaVerne



Congratulations and much success in all your endeavors.

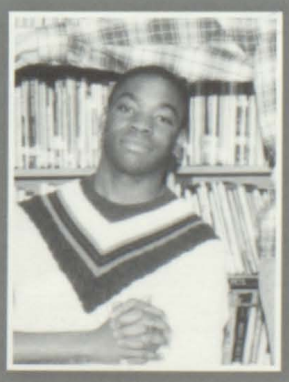
The UHS Faculty and Staff

Haile Henry

There is no place to go but UP.

Larry

Haile Henry



Congratulations
and
Good Luck
Leroy, Denise ,
Jasmeen, Arthur,
Josephine
and
Rakia

Congratulations, Genique Flournoy

Congratulations Genique!
You are on your way to success. You can achieve whatever you set out to do. I will do anything to help you on your journey. I believe in you and wish you much luck.



Love Always,
Mother

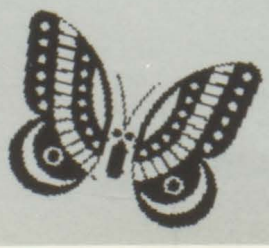


Melinda Murphy



Melinda,
We would like to take this time to congratulate you on your graduation. This is a special time in you're life when we feel grown up, but this is just the beginning of the long journey. Ahead what ever goal you plan to reach get out there and accomplish it. Remember we love you and we are here for you wishing you God's blessing.

Love,
Mom-Alberta
Sister- Deborah
Brother Derrick
Brother Freddie



Congratulations, Haile Henry

Clyde A. Pemberton, MD

Psychiatry/Neuro Psychiatry
Diplomate American Board
of Psychiatry and Neurology

Phone (201) 677-0622
90 Washington Street

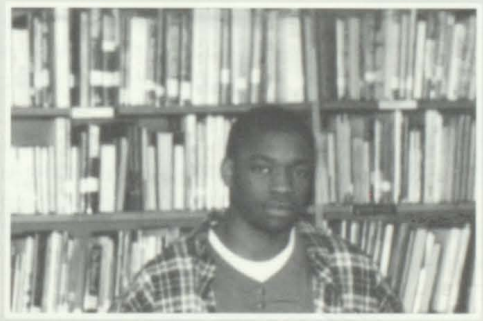
(201) 379-4000
48 Essex Street
Millburn , New Jersey 07041

Institute

The Nicholson Institute
Headquarters
90
Washington
Street
East Orange
New Jersey
07017
201.677.0622
201.677.0671 FAX

Registered Office
300 Queen Elizabeth II Avenue
Petit VAlley
Trinidad and Tobago, West Indias
809.632.0651
Clyde A. Pemberton, M.D.
Chairman

Haile Henry



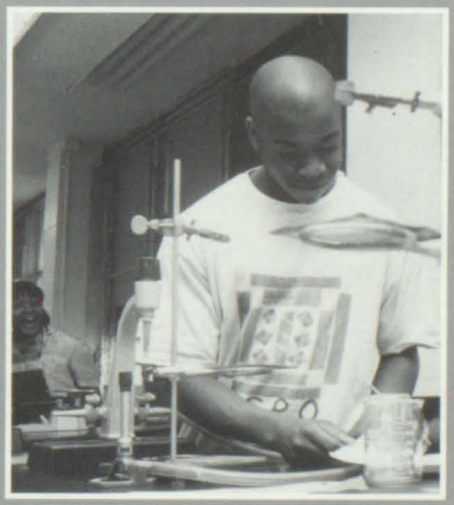
Haile,

You are a strong and mighty warrior glistening with the dew of knowledge: look up and feel the power as you head to that mighty tower. Remember, what you strive for you shall conquer, what you seek you shall find, what you create shall be. So be careful how you strive, open your eyes before you seek and meditate before you create then say "*It is Done*"!

I love you , Mom

Haile Henry

I am proud that you have made it!



Your Uncle,
Officer Bennett

Congratulations to My Senior Athletes

There was never a day when I was not amazed upon watching you grow and develop as athletes, students and people. There are not enough words to say how much I appreciate the dedication, determination and desire that you have exhibited throughout the Gifted and Talented and high school sport seasons. I have felt as if you have played not only for yourself, but for our teammates and even for me. You have competed in such activities as Volleyball, Basketball, and even Tennis. I believe that the greatest accomplishments that I have seen you complete are your transcendence of determination and discipline from athletes to academics. I am proud to say that my athletes are not only athletes, but members of the National Honor Society, Lincoln Douglas Debaters, Academic Decathloners, Math Olympics competitors, successful attorneys in the Law in Action Team, and are in the top 20% of the class. These great tasks that you have completed while competing and participating in Athletics is all that a physical education teacher can ask for. I feel compelled to say "Thank You for the four or six wonderful years of coaching and friendship."

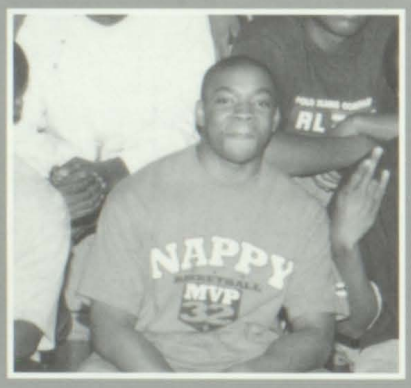




I have been there and seen it, so those who can't understand, *You Just Had to Be There.*

Love,
Ms. Hewett

Haile Henry



Congratulations, Haile
New Jersey State Headquarters
Universal Hagar's Spiritual Church
180 Clay Street
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601

Reverend S.A. Aquart
Pastor and State Princess
(201) 674-3967



An Open Letter to the Class of 1997

A **challenge** you were. **Gifted and Talented** you are. **Creative, resourceful** and **innovative** are words that aptly define you.

I have truly enjoyed serving as your advisor. Many hours have been spent to bring your dreams to fruition. Your individual personalities have made our journey success.

Many of you had fantastic ideas. Some personalities however lent themselves to the ***dreamers only***; the ***dreamers with more ideas***; and the ***dreamers that moved the ideas forward***. **I thank you for being who you are.**

I thank the members of the class who restored us academically. I thank the members of the class who provided us with vision. I am extremely grateful to the members of the class who labored long and hard to push us forward in accomplishing the dreams. Space will not permit me to list everyone's name who served an active part in our successes. I however cannot close without shouting out to my right and left arms: ***Sahkeenah and Jennifer I will always love you.***

Best of luck to all members of the class as you move toward reaching more milestones in your life.

Joylette Mills-Ransome, Advisor
Class of 1997